



# Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School

Monthly Newsletter

[www.oriskanycsd.org](http://www.oriskanycsd.org)

Volume 8 3rd Issue



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**WE HERE AT ORISKANY JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL  
WISH YOU AND YOURS A MAGICAL HOLIDAY  
SEASON!!**



# Principal's Message



Dear Students, Parents, and Families,

I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving break with family and friends. November was an outstanding month at the Jr./Sr. High School. On November 6th, we proudly welcomed three new members into our National Honor Society chapter. Later in the month, I had the privilege of attending the Optimist Club of Whitestown's Student of the Month dinner on November 19th, where seniors Jayson Mayo, Braelyn Oehler, and Eddie Wright were honored for their accomplishments.

Winter varsity sports officially began on November 17th, and our JV and Varsity Boys Basketball teams opened the season with their first home game last Monday. Registration for modified sports opens Friday, December 5th, with practices beginning January 5th. I look forward to cheering on our student-athletes across all winter sports, including basketball, hockey, indoor track, and new this year girls' volleyball. Let's bring the energy and cheer them on all season long!

December will be a busy and festive month. On Sunday, December 7th, several of our student clubs will volunteer at Christmas in the Nettles, a wonderful community event. On Thursday, December 11th, we will host our Jr./Sr. High School Winter Concert from 7:00 to 8:00 PM, and we hope it brings plenty of holiday cheer.

The Oriskany Language Club is also planning a movie night for elementary students on Friday, December 5th, from 5:00 to 7:30 PM in the High School Auditorium. Students will enjoy a showing of The Grinch, a juice box, bagged chips, and a printed photo with Santa provided by the Yearbook Club. Tickets are seven dollars per student.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and school community. I wish you a joyful and restful holiday season.



ORISKANY PROUD

Sincerely,



Andrew K Kennedy  
Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School Principal





Did You Know...

December:

- 4th- National Cookie Day
- 6th- Mitten Tree Day
- 10th- Nobel Prize Day
- 11th- Gingerbread House Day
- 17th- Wright Brothers Day
- 21st- World Peace Day
- 26th- National Candy Cane Day
- 30th- Bacon Day



December...

- 9th- BOE Meeting @ 6pm
- 11th- Winter Concert @7pm
- 18th- Winter Concert Snow Date
- 19th- Progress Reports Distributed
- 21st- First Day of Winter
- 22nd-31st- Winter Recess



Order Your  
**YEARBOOK**



[jostensyearbooks.com](http://jostensyearbooks.com)



**Poinsettia Pick Up**

**From Ski & Snowboard Club Fundraiser**

Now until December 15th

**@ River Road Farm and Greenhouse**





## Oriskany Central School's First Marking Period Honor Roll 2025-2026

### Highest Honor Roll: 94.5-100.0

- Grade 12: Jessica Beckwith, Alexia Birt, Matthew Dibble, Brayden LaGasse, Corinne Looney, Cameron Post, Edward Wright
- Grade 11: Danica Dame, Alexis Roman, Lance Smith III, Ashley Zyskowski
- Grade 10: Lilliana Ciotti, Nicholas Citriniti, Audrina Gulisano, Landon Volz
- Grade 9: Gavin Bronk, Isabella Hart
- Grade 8: Tanner Koons, Vito LoCaccio, Olivia Petronella,
- Grade 7: Lucas Boyko, Annika Detrick, Portia Gu, Kali Kraeger, Camille Looney, Jayden Schultz, Parker Volz, Robert West

### High Honor Roll: 89.50-94.49

- Grade 12: Angela Ajiataz, Jazmin Barnes, Nadia Chmut, Bryana Manella, Gabryella Manella, Braelyn Oehler, Savanah Schultz, Elizabeth Wright, Ethan Zarnoch-Riley
- Grade 11: Kaylee Corey, Darcie Klein, Matthew LoCash, Brynne Russum, Carter Usyk
- Grade 10: Troy Gu, Collin Opperman, Madeline Powers
- Grade 9: Lilly O'Dell, Ceci Piersma, Sophia Judycki, Camryn LoRusso, Victoria Reyes
- Grade 8: Brayden Anderson, Meika Butenhoff, Khilee Camerota, Carter Charles, Landon Christopher, Matthew Dousharm, Juno French, Nolan Opperman, Mason Rizzo-Williams, Greyson Ruiz, Samuel Sperling, Caysen Stapleton, Emma Stewart, Liam Tylutki, Taren Urtz, Brylie VanVechten Ayden Walker, Aaliyah Zurek
- Grade 7: James Conroy, Catherine Kent, Cole Larson, Liam Murphy, Ralph Petronella III, Penelope Russum, Irelynn Sanger, Paetyn Scott, MagnoLeea Worn

### Honor Roll: 84.00-89.49

- Grade 12: John Babcock, Justin Fisher, Jack Mason
- Grade 11: Broderick Anderson, Peyton Buehler, Emma Combs, Charles Golden, Adilyn Jamieson-Rothdiener, Wyatt Judycki, Ryan Kilmartin, Dean Koenig, Darien McGallian, Logan Neal, Aiden Pysnik, Jayden Stapleton, Kameron Zabek
- Grade 10: Ashlynn Andrews, Jewels Bewick, Gianna Detrick, Robert Duff Jr., Nathan Gulisano, Kirill Kasperovich, Nicholas Koenig, McKenzie Kronafel, Chase Larson, Kaelyn Mayo, Mia Shwamle, Isabella Smith, Donte Wolcott, KhaiLee Worn
- Grade 9: Peyton Dame, Caroline Gulick, Jacob Kent, Cohen Kraeger, Emily Poissant, Jason Reyes
- Grade 8: Clara Ciotti, Vanessa Fleegeer, Audrianna Granato, Laila Greenfield, Zoey Jacobs, Nathan Kronafel, Maddison Landon, Cole Lasher, Mitchell Mimassi, Kirke Palmer III
- Grade 7: Logan Alden, Jace Bewick, Allie Citriniti, Briella Calderon, Elijah Dyer, Wyatt Fairbrother, Quintin LoRusso, Brayden Miner, Jace Phillips, Victoria Walker, Ethan Wise



# Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES Career and Technical Education HONOR ROLL

## 1st Marking Period 2025-2026

### HIGH HONOR 90-100

Angela Ajiataz, Jazmin Barnes, Jessica Beckwith, Emma Combs, Kaylee Corey, Ryan Kilmartin, Darcie Klein, Darien McGallian, Cameron Post, Alexis Roman, Savannah Schultz, Edward Wright

### HONOR ROLL 85-89

Jayden Stapleton, Brent Tinney

### HONORABLE MENTION 80-84

Josephine Melvin, Rafael Velez, Elizabeth(Wilbur) Wright





SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
 	 	 
March 14, 2026	February 27, 2026	March 3, 2026
May 2, 2026	April 17, 2026	April 21, 2026
June 6, 2026	May 22, 2026	May 26, 2026

ACT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
 	 	 
April 11, 2026	March 6, 2026	March 24, 2026
June 13, 2026	May 8, 2026	May 29, 2026





## News From the Office of Counseling and Career Services...



# How to Apply for Federal Student Financial Aid

Financial aid is available from the federal and state governments and your college. This includes Pell Grants, Work-Study, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, and Federal Student Loans.

### Before You Apply

#### Get Your StudentAid.gov account.

- Dependent students require at least one parent to also have a StudentAid.gov Account (FSA ID) in order to complete and electronically sign the FAFSA and other federal student aid documents.
- Get it before you sit down to do the FAFSA.
- Visit [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov) and click "Create Account."

#### Check your eligibility

Go to [studentaid.gov/aid-estimator](http://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator) to use the **Federal Student Aid Estimator** for an estimate of your federal aid eligibility.

### Complete the FAFSA

- Go to [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov) and navigate to the **FAFSA® Form** to start applying for FAFSA.
- To fill out the FAFSA, you and your contributor(s) must have all of the required materials to submit your application.
- The FAFSA form applies to a single academic year. That means you need to submit a new FAFSA form each year you're applying for aid.

### Apply for the New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)

- If you're a NYS resident and include a NY school on your FAFSA, you should also apply for NYS aid online by using the NYS resident link on the FAFSA Submission Confirmation page.
- You must apply for TAP and complete or renew the FAFSA every year.
- You can apply directly at [www.tap.hesc.ny.gov/totw](http://www.tap.hesc.ny.gov/totw)

### Gather These Materials

- For both students and parents:
  - Drivers License.
  - Social Security Number.
  - Tax returns from two years prior to the FAFSA application year.
  - Records of other untaxed income, such as child support received, veterans' benefits, or military allowances.
  - Email address.

### What's Next?

- You will receive an email notice when your FAFSA has been processed and your FAFSA Submission Summary is available for review. Be sure to log into your account to verify all of your information is set.
- Be sure to respond to any questions or requests for more information by the deadline indicated or you could lose your eligibility for financial aid.

### Important Reminders

- Find out the financial aid deadlines at your college.
- Apply for financial aid every year.
- Don't pay for financial aid information that you can get for free. Visit [hesc.ny.gov](http://hesc.ny.gov) for more information.
- Attend financial aid workshops to learn more about programs and completing applications. Check with your high school counselor and visit [hesc.ny.gov](http://hesc.ny.gov)





## News From the Office of Counseling and Career Services...



### How to Apply for TAP and Other NYS Student Financial Aid

Financial aid comes primarily from the federal government, state government and/or your college.

**Visit [hesc.ny.gov/pay](http://hesc.ny.gov/pay) for a complete list of NYS financial aid programs.**

#### TAP

The New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) provides tuition awards to eligible students attending a college or university located in New York State.

Because TAP is a grant, it does not have to be paid back.

##### To be Eligible for TAP You Must

- Meet eligibility requirements as a NYS resident or qualify under the NYS DREAM Act.
- Meet family income limits of \$125,000 or less.
- Pursue an undergraduate degree at an approved postsecondary institution in NYS.

##### Award Amount

- Up to \$5,665 annually, as determined by factors including:
  - Family net taxable income.
  - Tuition charged by your college.
  - Other family members enrolled in college.

##### How to Apply

- From the FAFSA confirmation page, follow the Apply Now link for New York state-based financial aid.
- Visit [hesc.ny.gov/tap](http://hesc.ny.gov/tap) for eligibility criteria, application deadlines, and a link to the application.

If you qualify under the NYS DREAM Act, apply at [hesc.ny.gov/dream](http://hesc.ny.gov/dream)

#### Excelsior Scholarship

The Excelsior Scholarship, in combination with other student financial aid, allows eligible New York State students to attend a SUNY or CUNY college tuition-free.

##### To be Eligible for the Excelsior Scholarship You Must

- Meet eligibility requirements as a NYS resident or qualify under the NYS DREAM Act.
- Meet family income limits of \$125,000 or less.
- Pursue an undergraduate degree at a SUNY or CUNY college.
- Be enrolled in at least 12 credits per term and complete 30 credits each year successively.
- Be on track to complete an associates degree in two consecutive years or bachelors degree in four consecutive years.
- Agree to live in NYS for the length of time the award was received.

Visit [hesc.ny.gov/excelsior](http://hesc.ny.gov/excelsior) for full eligibility details.

##### How to Apply

- Visit [hesc.ny.gov/excelsior](http://hesc.ny.gov/excelsior) for application deadlines and a link to the application.

If you qualify under the NYS DREAM Act, apply at [hesc.ny.gov/dream](http://hesc.ny.gov/dream)





## News From the Office of Counseling and Career Services...



### Enhanced Tuition Awards

The Enhanced Tuition Awards program provides tuition awards to students attending a participating private college located in New York State.

#### To be Eligible for Enhanced Tuition Awards You Must

- Meet eligibility requirements as a NYS resident or qualify under the NYS DREAM Act.
- Meet family income limits of \$125,000 or less.
- Pursue an undergraduate degree at a participating private college located in NYS.
- Be enrolled in at least 12 credits per term and complete 30 credits each year successively.
- Be on track to complete an associates degree in two consecutive years or bachelors degree in four consecutive years.
- After completing your degree, you must live in NYS for the length of time the award was received.

Visit [hesc.ny.gov/eta](https://hesc.ny.gov/eta) for full eligibility details.

#### Award Amount

- Up to \$6,000 annually through the combination of your TAP award, ETA award and a match from your private college.

#### How to Apply

- Visit [hesc.ny.gov/eta](https://hesc.ny.gov/eta) for application deadlines and a link to the application.

If you qualify under the NYS DREAM Act, apply at [hesc.ny.gov/dream](https://hesc.ny.gov/dream)

### After Applying, What's Next?

- Check your email and HESC account frequently for updates regarding your application status.
- Respond to any questions or requests for additional information by the deadline indicated.

### STEM Scholarship

The NYS Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Incentive Program provides full tuition awards to students attending a SUNY or CUNY college or university in New York State.

#### To be Eligible for the STEM Scholarship You Must

- Meet eligibility requirements as a NYS resident or qualify under the NYS DREAM Act.
- Be ranked in the top 10 percent of your high school graduating class.
- Pursue an undergraduate degree in STEM at a SUNY or CUNY college or university.
- Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher.
- Agree to live and work in NYS in an approved STEM occupation for five years after college.

Visit [hesc.ny.gov/stem](https://hesc.ny.gov/stem) for full eligibility details.

#### Award Amount

- Up to the annual SUNY resident undergraduate tuition rate.

#### How to Apply

- Visit [hesc.ny.gov/stem](https://hesc.ny.gov/stem) for application deadlines and a link to the application.

If you qualify under the NYS DREAM Act, apply at [hesc.ny.gov/dream](https://hesc.ny.gov/dream)



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10/24



## News From the Office of Counseling and Career Services...

### Seniors.....Senior Parents.....

Two Online events to assist with your FAFSA completion



#### FAFSA Completion Workshops

It's time to complete your Financial Aid application! This is a hands-on workshop, so be ready to complete your FAFSA during the program. You will need to have the following information handy: [FAFSA Completion Checklist](#).

This workshop will be most useful if you can complete your FAFSA on one device while viewing the webinar on a second device. Therefore, two devices are recommended, if possible.

■ [FAFSA Completion Workshop](#)  
12/11/2025 06:30 PM  
Online Event

■ [FAFSA Completion Workshop](#)  
12/18/2025 06:30 PM  
Online Event

[Click here to view all SUNY Student Events](#)





News From the Office of Counseling and Career Services...

## Seniors & Juniors....

### Pathways to College Night at MVCC

Students and parents/guardians are invited to our **Pathways to College: From Dual Credit to Degree** at Mohawk Valley Community College.



Wednesday, December 10, 2025



5:30–8:00 p.m.



Alumni College Center (ACC), MVCC Utica Campus

Learn how high school and dual-credit courses connect to college degrees, careers, and transfer options. MVCC faculty and staff will be available to answer questions about programs, financial aid, and student support.



Please RSVP by Dec. 9: <https://mv.edu/familynight>



#### Event Details

- **Date:** Wednesday, December 10, 2025
- **Time:** 5:30–8:00 p.m.
- 5:30–6:00 p.m. – Check-in, refreshments, and student resource tables
- 6:00–6:30 p.m. – Welcome & opening presentation
- 6:30–6:45 p.m. – Dual-credit student success story
- 6:45–8:00 p.m. – Academic pathways, resource fair, and lab tours
  
- **Location:** MVCC – Alumni College Center (ACC), Utica Campus
- **Check-in:** ACC Commons Area
- **Presentation:** ACC 116

#### What you'll get out of it:

- Learn how dual credit works and how it transfers into degrees and certificates.
  - Find out how smart course choices now can save you serious time and money later.
  - Hear real talk on common myths & pitfalls around dual credit and college.
  - See how starting at a community college can lead to a smooth transfer to a 4-year school.
  - Check out academic pathways that match your interests—Health Sciences, STEM, Art, Business & Hospitality, Public & Human Services, Humanities, and more.
  - Explore careers, salaries, and local job demand in fields you're curious about.
- Visit labs and student resource stations (Advising, Admissions, Financial Aid, Accessibility, Career Services, and C3).



## \$\$\$\$\$ Scholarship Opportunities \$\$\$\$\$

Do you need money in your pocket for school?

Are you a graduating **senior** and plan to continue your education at a trade or technical school, a college, or in the military?

The **Oriskany Retirees' Organization** can help!

Scholarships for future teachers are available.

The **Future Teacher Scholarship** is a shared scholarship with the Oriskany Alumni Association and is worth \$750.

There are also scholarships for other fields of study from O.R.O. The **Oriskany Scholarship** is worth \$375.

Please visit the **guidance office** for applications.

# Winter Concert



*Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School*

*Winter Concert*

*December 11, 2025*

*Starts at 7:00 PM*





# Seniors Honored as Students of the Month..

...by Whitestown Optimist Club



On Wednesday, November 19 three Oriskany students were recognized as part of the Optimist Club of Whitestown's Student of the Month Program. The honorees, Jayson Mayo, Braelyn Oehler, and Eddie Wright, 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 Jayson, Braelyn, and Eddie!

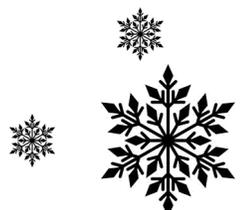


# This Happened...

## Language Club



On Sunday November 16th members of the language club hosted a pancake breakfast for families and the school community. It was a great learning opportunity as members seated, served and cleared close to 100 tables that morning. They were prompt and attentive in anticipating customers' needs; pancakes, bacon and coffee were served along with lots of smiles and laughs. They are looking forward to putting their funds raised towards upcoming trips and events.



# This Happened...

## Language Club



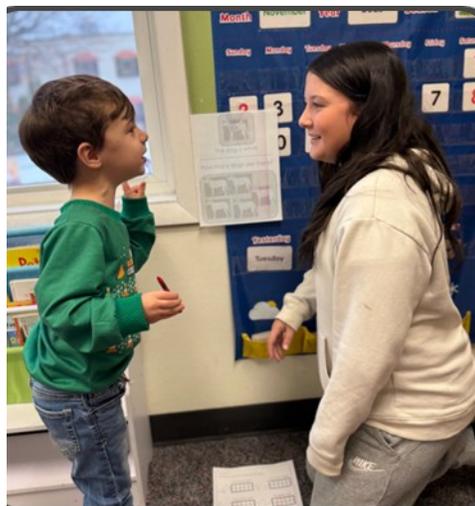
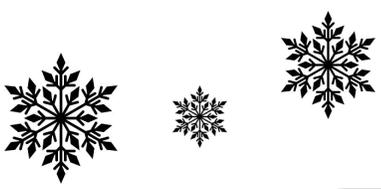
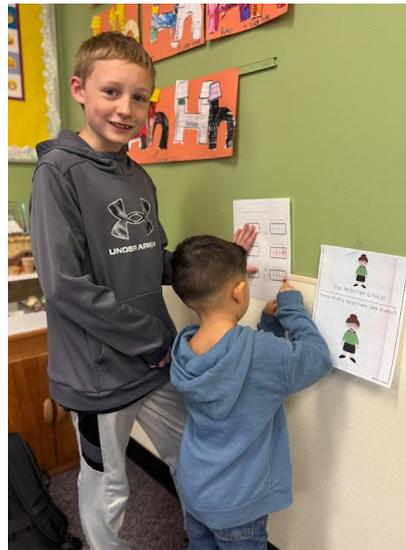
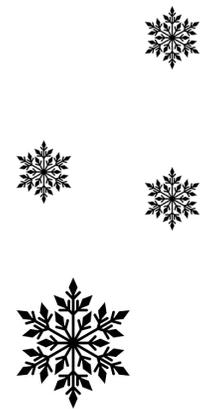
On October 29th and November 12th Language Club visited Eastern Star Daycare.

On the 29th they read "*Brown Bear Brown Bear*" by Eric Carle. After reading the book each of the club members partnered with a child to go around the room and find hidden animals. On the paper they counted how many animals were seen and talked about what color they were. When they were all finished they ended with counting from 1-10.

On November 12th, they reviewed the book "*Brown Bear, Brown Bear*" They then sang a song called "Numbers" Each club member again partnered with a child to go around the room and do a counting activity that involved counting the number of animals on papers hidden around the room. Club members helped them count in English & Spanish and helped them fill out a table.



# More Language Club...



*Hello December*



**Bingo's Birthday Month**

**Car Donation Month**

**National Pear Month**

**Safe Toys & Gifts Month**

**Universal Human Rights Month**

**Worldwide Food Service Safety Month**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!**