

## Family Engagement News

by: Cindi Rhoades

Happy New Year! I hope you are all enjoying some family time over this Winter break and are enjoying whatever holiday you are celebrating or getting ready to celebrate! Please remember that school resumes on January 5<sup>th</sup> (that's this Monday)! Also, the Art show displaying our elementary students at the SBU Regina Quick Center ends on the 5th, so if you haven't gone to check it out and are looking for something to do, we have 22 student art submissions on display. Drive safely as the snow is here for a while and roads can be quite hazardous, especially if you have to make a sudden stop! Last month, we held 6 musical concerts open to the public, Coffee with the Superintendent at OHS, and a Breakfast with Santa! The **Board of Education** will meet on **1/13/26 at 6:30 PM**, in the Board Room at OHS. **Don't forget that there will be NO SCHOOL on January 19<sup>th</sup> for MLK Day or January 26<sup>th</sup> for Staff Development Day.** That's two three-day weekends for kids to enjoy their families!

**East View:** East View PTO held our annual Santa Night and announced the winners of the Family Art Contest. About 170 children and their families came to celebrate the holidays. Make sure you check out the winners of the Family Art contest whose banners will be displayed around the poles at East View for the winter! East View had a group of 1<sup>st</sup> graders go to sing Christmas Carols for the CUTCO retiree luncheon last month and then the Pre-Kindergarten students went to CUTCO to deliver homemade Christmas cards to all the employees, made by East View students! (see pictures) We also held our second CUTCO character assembly where we celebrated those students who embodied the trait of "Begin with the End in Mind" (goal setting). Over 50 parents of December student winners were able to come in and see their child be presented with their certificates, and then CUTCO volunteers came in with pizza the following week for those winners! (see pictures). Mr. Folland ran another family Fitness Challenge where 47 students and families participated over the Thanksgiving break. Who could forget our Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade concerts, which saw over 260 family members in attendance! (see pictures). Lastly, we held a flash challenge to gear up for this month's big attendance incentive program for students, so let's see how many students can qualify in January! We also have our second CUTCO raffle beginning on **January 9th** and will have our Cowboys & Cowgirls Winter Dance in February so watch for more information about these

events! **Don't forget that there will be NO SCHOOL on Monday January 19<sup>th</sup> for MLK Day or Monday January 26<sup>th</sup> for Staff Development Day.**

**Washington West:** Washington West held our annual Cookies with Santa last month with a great turnout. Students and their families came into the school for games, crafts, photos with Santa and a lot of holiday fun. (see pictures) We also held our Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade Concerts where the community was invited to come in and see the little perform their magic. Thank you, Mr. Hughey! (see pictures). Upcoming events include our free **Family Ice Skating** on **January 11<sup>th</sup>** at the Olean Recreation Center (Ice Rink) from **2:30-4:30 PM**. **Don't forget that there will be NO SCHOOL on Monday January 19<sup>th</sup> for MLK Day or Monday January 26<sup>th</sup> for Staff Development Day.**

**OIMS:** OIMS held our Music Concert in December which filled the stands (see pictures). The 6<sup>th</sup> graders were busy with a cereal drive for our local food pantry and making ornaments to deliver to residents of our local nursing home to spread a little holiday cheer to our community (see pictures). Let's not forget that the **free Family Swim Nights** are held at our OIMS pool, which are open to **ALL families in the district**, so check your Parent Square for the dates and come and join us! **Don't forget that there will be NO SCHOOL on Monday January 19<sup>th</sup> for MLK Day or Monday January 26<sup>th</sup> for Staff Development Day.**

**OHS:** OHS held our Winter Concert where the students showed just how much they have progressed through the years (see pictures). The DECA club held a Breakfast with Santa Claus, where about 40 families came in to eat and get their pictures taken with Santa. Regents exams run from January 20<sup>th</sup> through January 23<sup>rd</sup> so please make every effort to have your student in school on time for their exam! Upcoming Events will include the **Musical "Big Fish"** on **January 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> at 7 PM**. **Don't forget that there will be NO SCHOOL on Monday January 19<sup>th</sup> for MLK Day or Monday January 26<sup>th</sup> for Staff Development Day.** Any student needing volunteer hours can stop in to see Ms. Rhoades (room #1) for opportunities.

**Special Education:** Juniors & Seniors with disabilities (IEP or 504 plans), if you haven't yet filled out your paperwork for ACCES-VR (transitional services) please get those applications in as soon as possible! There are so many benefits you may be eligible for, including help with college expenses! We just sent out a survey for all families involved with Special Education which will help us to know what we can provide to families. If you haven't already filled out the very brief survey, I would encourage you to do so. We are looking at a Resource

Fair and College Access Night here in Olean very soon, so keep an eye out for information on this. If you have any questions, give Cindi Rhoades a call at (716) 375-8031.

**SAVE THE DATES:**

- January 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>: NO SCHOOL – Winter break
- January 5<sup>th</sup>: SCHOOL RESUMES- all buildings !!!
- January 11<sup>th</sup>: WW Free Family Ice Skating 2:30-4:30 PM (Rec Center)
- January 13<sup>th</sup>: BOE Meeting- 6:30 PM BOE room at OHS
- January 16<sup>th</sup>: NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Day
- January 26<sup>th</sup>: NO SCHOOL- Staff Development Day
- January 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>: OHS Musical “Big Fish”- 7:00 PM
- February 3<sup>rd</sup>: BOE Meeting- 6:30 PM BOE room at OHS
- February 7<sup>th</sup>: OHS Winter Weekend Dance
- February 27<sup>th</sup>: EV Winter Dance 6-7:30 PM

Don't forget to check out the Family Engagement Page! Go to the school's main website ([www.oleanschools.org](http://www.oleanschools.org)) and in the upper right-hand corner of the screen, click on **Menu**. Scroll down to hover on the **Community Schools** where you will find the **Family Engagement** Page. Here you will find plenty of resources, and we will continue to update these. There are also a **Calendar** and a **Community Events** section that includes both things through the school and a section for events out in the community for families to participate in! New items are listed almost daily, so check them out. We also added a section for **Newsletters** that will be posted monthly. If you know of an event in the community and don't see it listed there, feel free to contact Cindi Rhoades at (716) 375-8031 or [crhoades@oleanschools.org](mailto:crhoades@oleanschools.org) and fill me in. In addition, there is a family resource page for each of our buildings through Parent Square.

**Scroll down for lots of pictures!**





**(EV December CUTCO Character Assembly)**



**(EV CUTCO Luncheon)**



**(WW Grade K Concert)**



**(WW Grade 1 Concert)**



**(EV Grade K Concert)**



**(EV Grade 1 Concert)**





**(EV Santa Night)**



**(OIMS Concert)**



**(OHS Breakfast with Santa)**



**(EV Pre-K Cards at CUTCO)**



**(OHS Concert)**

**Keep scrolling!**



**(OIMS Ornaments)**



**(OIMS Cereal Drive)**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS !**