



# SUPERINTENDENT'S BRIEF

Dr. Genelle Morris

Volume 4 Issue #4 | January 2026

## A Message from Dr. Morris:

As we begin a new year, I am continually inspired by the energy, dedication, and pride shown by our students, families, and staff. The first part of the school year has been filled with meaningful learning, creativity, and collaboration across all of our buildings, and it has been wonderful to see our classrooms, hallways, performance spaces, and athletic facilities so active and engaged.

This season offers a natural opportunity for reflection and gratitude. I am deeply thankful for our educators, whose commitment to our students is evident every day, and for our families and community partners who play such an important role in supporting our schools. Together, you help foster an environment where every student feels welcomed, supported, and encouraged to reach their full potential.

I encourage families to stay connected by attending school events, engaging in conversations about district initiatives, and sharing feedback that helps guide our work. Your partnership is essential, and together we will continue to build a year defined by excellence, growth, and Husky Pride.

*Dr. Genelle Morris*





## 200th anniversary of the Erie Canal Celebration:

Mr. Perry's students celebrated the 200th anniversary of the Erie Canal and the historic "Wedding of the Waters" through an immersive, hands-on learning experience. Students from CA BOCES and SUNY Jamestown Community College collaborated to bring history to life. BOCES students designed and built a full canal barge frame, while JCC students created educational posters displayed along the exterior. Once completed, students traveled through the first floor of OHS on a guided journey exploring the evolution of transportation in America.





## Lunch with Santa:

Mrs. Fidurko's class at Washington West spent time with their friends at Intandom in late December. The class visits once a month to share lunch and do activities together, and their last visit came with an extra bit of holiday magic when Santa and Mrs. Claus stopped by for a surprise visit!





## East View Santa Night:

East View was full of holiday cheer on Friday, December 12th, as families gathered for Santa Night. Students and families enjoyed reindeer games, crafts, prizes, and of course, a visit from Santa. A heartfelt thank-you to everyone who helped plan, set up, and make the night such a memorable celebration for our community.





## Washington West Cookies with Santa Night:





## Earth Science Students Launch into Learning:

OHS students blasted off during their annual visit to the Challenger Learning Center in Allegany, NY. During the trip, students stepped into Mission Control and the Space Station to take part in a fully simulated space mission. Working in teams, they ran experiments and communicated across stations. They solved challenges in real time just like astronauts and engineers. Students also explored Mars through coding and operating robotic rovers on a simulated Martian surface.





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## Olean City School District

### OCSD Winter Concerts 2025





## Santa Claus Lane Parade Performers:

These students braved the chilly temperatures to perform for both their community and their school during the Santa Claus Lane Parade on November 28th. As always, a heartfelt thank-you goes out to the dedicated staff members who give their time, energy, and passion to support our students every day.



**MLK Jr Day**  
**No school.**  
**January 19, 2026**





## Sixth Graders Spread Kindness:

Our sixth-grade students spent December spreading kindness throughout our school and community. As part of their Acts of Kindness activities, students wrote positive notes, created ornaments for local nursing homes, delivered thank-you surprises to staff members, and organized a cereal drive to support a local food pantry. We couldn't be prouder of these thoughtful Huskies.





## 8th Grade Holiday Woodworking Project:

Holiday spirit was in full swing in Mr. Rucinski's 8th Grade Applied Tech class. Students designed and built their own wooden decorative trees while learning real-world skills such as measuring, planning, and safely using tools like the table saw, miter saw, planer, and more. We are proud of their hard work and craftsmanship.





## Washington West Kindness Walk:

Erin Fidurko's class brought smiles to their neighborhood with a holiday kindness walk. Students spread cheer by delivering "Snowman Soup" treats to neighbors as a simple act of kindness and connection.



## 2025 Tuba Christmas:

Mr. Sayers, Miss Kranz, and our tuba and euphonium players joined 120 musicians in Buffalo for the 2025 Tuba Christmas, a nationwide celebration of the tuba family. Huge thanks to the Olean City School District Foundation for making this possible!





## OHS ATHLETIC EVENT RULES

- Any student 7th grade or younger must be accompanied by a parent/guardian/caregiver for admission to any Olean high school football or basketball game. The adult accompanying the student needs to be in attendance as a point of contact for the duration of the event. This allows OHS staff to respond appropriately if issues arise among younger students who are unfamiliar to high school staff, and can help ensure a safe environment for students and families who are there to enjoy the game.
- Students are not allowed to bring bags or backpacks.
- No outside food or drinks are allowed.
- Only high school students from the home team or the visiting team are permitted to attend the game without a parent or guardian. (ID required).
- Students attending athletic events must bring valid student identification with them to show high school staff upon entering an athletic venue.



## Students Celebrated with Volunteer Luncheon:

Mrs. Graves' Jobs students were treated to a special volunteer luncheon at the Fannie E. Bartlett House and the Olean Point Museum as a thank-you for their hard work this season. Earlier this fall, students volunteered at the Bartlett House, raking leaves and helping with decorations. As a thank you, they were invited back to enjoy pizza, cookies, cupcakes, and ice cream sundaes. Thank you to the Fannie E. Bartlett House team for making our students feel so welcomed and appreciated.





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## Olean City School District

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## Coffee with the superintendent:

You are invited to the next Coffee with the Superintendent

### Future Coffee Dates:

- Tuesday, January 27, 2026, from 7:30 am to 8:30, EV, Library
- Tuesday, February 10, 2026, from 7:30 am to 8:30, WW, Library
- Tuesday, March 17, 2026, from 7:30 am to 8:30, OIMS, LGI Room

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

