



OLEAN

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Home, School and Community Educating for Life"

December 2009-January 2010

Volume 6, Issue 3

Teachers score 'touchdown' with awards

Two Olean teachers were honored as part of the Buffalo Bills and M&T Bank "Touchdown for Teachers" program during the November 29th Bills vs. Dolphins game. There were over 100 applicants, and honorees were chosen based on their involvement in and positive impact on the school or community, as well as their demonstrated commitment to education.

Brian Martin, 2nd grade teacher at Washington West Elementary, was the "Touchdown for Teachers" grand prize winner and received an in-class visit from a Buffalo Bills player as part of his award. Carrie Samuelson, Olean Middle School science teacher, was one of five program finalists.

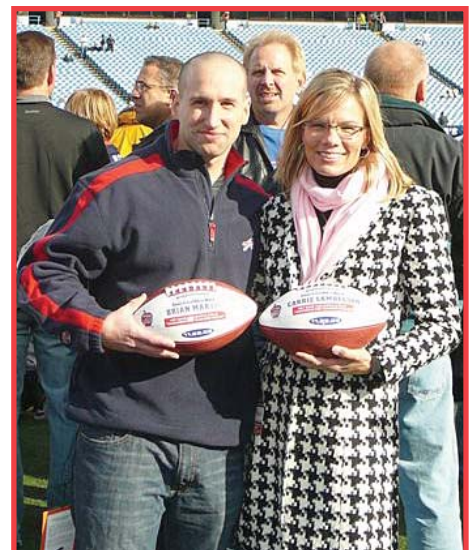
Mr. Martin is an exceptional teacher and an outstanding person who goes above and beyond for his students both in and outside of the classroom. He donates his time as a basketball coach for our Olean Varsity team and has also volunteered for various summer leagues, team camps, and community festivals. Recently, Mr. Martin had to put his life and career aside to serve a tour of duty in Iraq with the U.S. Army Reserve. As a result of being the grand prize winner, Buffalo Bill's player, Andy Levitre, visited Mr. Martin's students at Washington West. While the Bills lineman was only scheduled to visit one classroom, Mr. Martin worked very hard to put together a school-wide assembly for all to enjoy.

Mrs. Samuelson is in her 25th year of teaching and is dedicated to helping youngsters be interested and successful science students. She was nominated by OMS Principal Jerry Trietley, who said, "Carrie is a dedicated teacher not only to her students, but also to her community. She organizes our middle schoolers to ring the bell for the Salvation Army, heads a food drive for the Olean Food Pantry, manages the NYS Science Assessment, is a team parent for the OHS Varsity Boys' Soccer Team, and more! Carrie is an integral part of OMS and the entire Olean community. She has volunteered for the March of Dimes, Genesis House, and OMS Adopts a Park."

OCSD is extremely proud of both Mr. Martin and Mrs. Samuelson, their contributions to our district and the City of Olean. Congratulations!



Above, Buffalo Bills' lineman Andy Levitre visits the classroom of Washington West Elementary teacher Brian Martin. Below, Mr. Martin and OMS teacher Carrie Smuelson receive their Touchdown for Teachers awards during a Buffalo Bills football game.





Tenure awarded

Pictured above, Marcie Richmond (right), Director of Special Education, is presented Tenure Certificate by Laurie Branch, president of the Olean City School District Board of Education.

Important dates for graduating seniors

Monday, January 4th
Financial Aid Night

Wednesday, January 13th
Senior Class Meeting - information regarding graduation announcements

Thursday, February 18th
Cap and Gown Measurements - fee of \$18 due at the time of measurements

Thursday, June 24th
Graduation Rehearsal

Sunday, June 27th
Graduation

January Testing Notice:

There is no school for students in Grades 9-12 on Friday, January 29th, unless they are testing.

Message from the Superintendent

Encouraging all learners to find joy and success in school

By Dr. Colleen Taggerty
Superintendent of Schools

Imagine a school where all students feel empowered to learn, pursue their interests and are expected to be creative and innovative. Creating and maintaining a culture of high expectations and innovative learning is both our mission and most challenging goal.

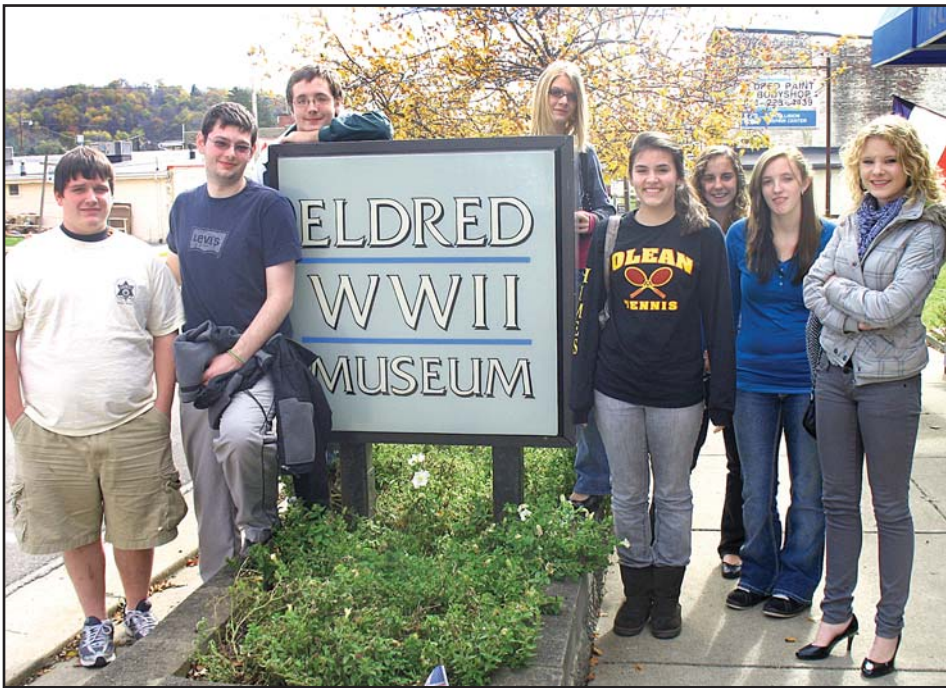
Now, envision the possibilities of success when students come to school eager and ready to learn; their healthy eating and sleep habits promote academic achievement; and most importantly, they have high expectations for themselves and others. School can and should be a positive experience for each child.

The Olean City School District encourages all learners to find the joy and success associated with school. To do so, each must be willing to demonstrate respect towards others, to accept diverse opinions, know their strengths and be willing to address their deficiencies. In order for our learners to find future success, they must recognize the value of knowledge, the power associated with knowledge, and the need to understand that with power one must also accept the responsibility associated with it. Character and integrity does matter. Within each of us lies excellence. Let's excel together!



District awaits approval of Capital Project Drawings

As the school district awaits approval from the New York State Education Facilities Planning Department for our Capital Project drawings, Hunt Engineers and Architects (pictured above) conducted a pre-construction walk through at Olean High School.



World War II History Challenge

By Katie Wolfgang

In October, two teams of students from Olean High School traveled to the World War II Museum in Eldred, PA to participate in the *Big 30 History Challenge*. Students from Big 30 high schools in New York and Pennsylvania were invited to attend this academic event sponsored by the museum. Working in teams of four, students were tested on their knowledge of World War II in three different formats: a multiple choice test, a scavenger hunt and a matching quiz. The questions were extremely challenging, requiring an in-depth knowledge of the events of World War II. When the results were announced, Team One from Olean High School (Jason Mahar, Rosemary Ames, Nick Corwin and Todd Hanson) finished in an impressive fourth place! Team Two (Paige Himes, Ashley Bennett, Amber Kolodziejski and Alyssa Brown) finished in twelfth place. Way to go, History Huskies!

City Hall hosts 'Deck the Halls' art exhibit

Olean City School students, at both the high school and middle school, had seasonal artwork on display through the month of December at the Olean City Hall. Brianna Scanlon, sophomore at OHS, and Olivia Mucke, sixth grade, were awarded a greater Olean Gift Certificate for their outstanding artwork. Several local pre-school classes also have artwork on display.

SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION

The Olean City School District will announce school closings or delays on TV channels 2, 4, 7, and 9 as well as on radio stations WBEN, WLSV, WMXO, and WPIG.

Bantelman to play basketball for UB Bulls



Olean High School senior Rachel Bantelman has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball for the University of Buffalo Bulls' 2010-11 season. Rachel is a 5-11 forward and will fit in to play either the three or the four for the Bulls.

Rachel has won numerous awards for basketball and swimming in high school. Academically, she is in the top 10 percent of her class and has been a NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete for the last five years.

"It is nice to finally have a player on our roster from New York and we are thrilled to have been able to sign someone of Rachel's caliber in the early signing period," said Linda Hill-MacDonald, fifth-year head coach of the Lady Bulls.

Rachel is pictured seated with (l-r) her father Joe, OHS Coach/Athletic Director Don Scholla, her sister Emily and mother Jean.



OMS 'paws-itively' drug free!

By Katie Ralston, OMS Teacher

October 26-30th was a week of excitement, creativity, and enthusiasm at the Olean Middle School. Students in grades 6-8 worked together to display their pledge to be drug free. The week consisted of school wide activities, including hallway decorating, grade level competitions, and eccentric dress! Students dressed in their favorite sports gear, wild socks, as twins, and in red and gold to show their true Olean Husky spirit. This year proved to be our most successful yet, with more students participating in the competitions than ever before. Daily trivia questions and themes allowed for over \$1,300 in prizes for the students.

The week began with a pledge to be drug free and was concluded with judging of the hallway decorations, a school wide assembly, and the Red Ribbon dance. Faculty and students wore red ribbons on Friday to honor the life of Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, a member of the United States Drug Force Administration who gave his life to make a difference.

A big congratulations goes out to the 6th grade Red Team, whose theme "Drugs will haunt your future. Don't bury your dreams," allowed them to take first place in the hallway competitions. The 8th grade Purple Team took first place overall after their victory in the tug-of-war.

Mr. Shoup and Miss Ralston, the coordinators of Red Ribbon Week, thank all of the staff, students, and administration who worked to make this week a success.

Congress staff hard at work

The Journalism/Marketing class has been working very hard this year preparing the Congress 2010 yearbook. At this time, the yearbook staff is traveling throughout the community selling advertisements to be published in this year's yearbook. For all the businesses that have already purchased an advertisement, we sincerely thank you! Your advertisement helps defray the cost of the yearbook for our students and helps publicize your business to the younger consumers in the area. **Thank you for your support**, many OHS students might not be able to make this purchase without your help!



YEARBOOK 'AD FOR GRAD' ORDER FORM

Don't forget to purchase your yearbook! Simply go to www.jostens.com and place your order. **Hurry!** Prices increase after February 1, 2010.



Senior Parents, Guardians, Siblings, Friends, etc....., PLACE AN "AD FOR GRAD" TODAY!



Susan,

Congratulations on this important step toward your future! You are a very amazing person who is loved very much.

Love,

Mom, Dad, Mike, Josh and Elizabeth

Sample 1/8 Page

AD SIZE	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
1/8 Page	\$ 75.00		
1/4 Page	\$ 40.00		
1/2 Page	\$140.00		

Complete the information below and return this form along with a picture and typed message to your senior to be included in the "AD FOR GRAD" section of the Congress 2010 yearbook to:

Mrs. Frentz / Mrs. Stavish
410 W. Sullivan Street
Olean, NY 14760

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Student Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

(Pictures will be returned at the end of the school year.)



Athletic Department News

Section VI All-WNY Scholar Athletes

Seniors Amanda Lasky (swimming) and Kevin Stevens (football) have been selected for the Section VI All-Western New York Fall Scholar Athlete Award. The award, sponsored by Section VI and ADPRO Sports, recognizes academic as well as athletic achievement. Students must have carried a 90+ average for the previous six semesters and been a starter or significant contributor in their sport. Kevin and Amanda have distinguished themselves academically, as well as athletically. They represent the finest qualities of a student-athlete and citizen.

OHS also had 11 other nominees receive honorable mentions: Rachel Bantelman (swimming), James Hardenbergh (soccer), Hannah Hughes (cross country), Brittney Lee (soccer), Dan Massaro (soccer), Chris Mosher (cross country), JD Olson (soccer), John Samuelson (soccer), Sarah Shembeda (tennis), Helen Ventura (soccer) and Megan Wells (tennis).



OHS Fall Scholar Athletes

Senior tennis player Sarah Shembeda and senior football player Kevin Stevens have been named OHS Scholar-Athletes for the Fall 2009 season. This award is given by the CCAA League and recognizes achievement in academics as well as athletics.



2009 Fall All-Sportsmanship Team

Congratulations to OHS Fall 2009 All-Sportsmanship Team: JV Boys' Soccer – Matt McClelland; V. Volleyball – Kristiana Austin; JV Volleyball – Ashlyn Southard; V. Boys' Soccer – Brad Nenno; Girls' Tennis – Stephany George; V. Girls' Soccer – Anamaria Mehmel; Girls' Swimming – Shanae Abdo; V. Football – Todd Hanson; AD's Choice Football – David Kranock; JV Football – Arthur Peterson; Cheerleading – Sheila Lorow; and JV Girls' Soccer – Sydney Zuckerman. Missing from photo: Girls' X-Country – Hannah Hughes and Boys' X-Country – Destin Sweeten.



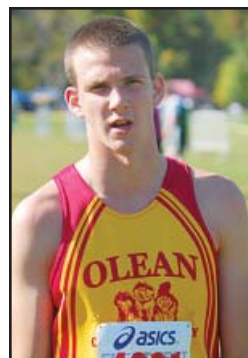
Athlete of the Season

Congratulations to Senior Rachel Bantelman, Girls' Varsity Swimming, on being named the OHS Athlete of the Season for Fall 2009.



Section VI Runs Spotlight

Sophomore Dakota Spencer was featured recently in the Section VI Runs Spotlight. Dakota is a member of the Boys' Cross Country team. In the spotlight he answered a variety of questions. When asked what has been



the highlight thus far of his running career, Dakota answered, "Definitely placing 6th at East Aurora, considering the fact that I placed 76th there last year."

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS

The 8th Grade Purple Team students rang the bells for the Salvation Army at the Olean Wal-mart store on a cold and rainy night. But, their spirits were high as they rang and sang, and helped with this worthwhile cause. About 40 OMS students participated.



Pictured are: (front, l-r) Jackie Hitchcock, Brittany Richardson, (back, l-r) Brian Higby, Skyler Reisner, Katie Huselstein, and Madison Carlson.

OLEAN FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Eighth Grade Purple Team student, Lizzy Warren (left) helps fill the collection box for the Olean Food Pantry as part of a school wide effort. Her classmate Mohrgan Sokolowski (right), adds treats to the giant, prize filled stocking. The stocking was raffled with proceeds also going to the Olean Food Pantry.



PERFECT ATTENDANCE WINNERS



Congratulations to the first quarter Distinguished Attendance Award winner Sara Fox (\$25 award) and Perfect Attendance Award winner Brock Blovsky (\$50 award). Both students are shown in the photo at left with OMS Principal, Jerry Trietley.



MRS. SKROBACZ: 'DETERMINED'

When people hear the word "leader", they think of their 8th grade teacher, Mrs. Skrobacz; a determined leader who has high expectations and tries to make sure all of her students are successful. She doesn't only give during the holidays, she is a humble and generous person who never takes credit for her students' success in giving.

Mrs. Skrobacz works hard to get us ready for high school. She is respectful, dedicated, determined, and kind-hearted. Mrs. Skrobacz is thankful to have her as our teacher as she always goes above and beyond. We write this article as our holiday gift to Mrs. Skrobacz.

(This article was authored by the 8th grade Gray Team: Brandon Francis, William Gardner, Colleen Gerrity, Madison Lehere, Abigail Lorow, Richard Mikolajczyk, Courtney Smith, Carolann Thayer, Jacob Turek. Absent: ...)

HONOR ROLL STUDENTS

On December 9, over 200 first quarter OMS Honor Roll students were treated to a hot and delicious breakfast from Burger King. Mr. Trietley, Principal, and Mr. W... Assistant Principal, were both on hand to congratulate the students.

To make Honor Roll, students must achieve an overall minimum average of 91% with no grade below 75%. Featured in this photo is sixth grader Tyler Richmond from the Red Team showing off his Honor Roll Certificate.

We would like to thank Ms. Sonia Higby from the V... State Street location for preparing and delivering breakfast. Her hard work and dedication are always appreciated!



NED AND STRONG LEADER'

Martin Luther King Jr. or Rosa Parks but OMS
rmined and strong leader. She is the kind of teacher
f her students succeed. She organizes events for ev-
holidays; valuing others is a year around event. She
lit for the things she does for others. She just believes

school. She treats everyone as equals. She is re-
s. Skrobacz values us in so many ways. We are very
the extra mile for our school and our community. We
Thank you, Mrs. Skrobacz!

am: Kyle Antonioli, Brock Blovsky, Taylor Bright,
Megan Green, Matthew Ketchner, Sarah Knieser,
Zachary Pfeiffer, Nicole Raymond, Sarah Retchless,
nt: Mercedes Tarr and Gabrielle Nunez)

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OH LÀ, LÀ!!! LE FRANÇAIS, C'EST SUPER!

By Sheila Jackson, OMS French teacher

National French Week was celebrated in all OMS French classes from November 6th through November 10th. This year's celebration entailed daily theme days as chosen by the first period Advanced class: Moustache/Beret Day, Black T-Shirt Day, Très chic! Day, Blue, White and Red Day, and last but not least, Mardi Gras in November Day. National French Week is a week to commemorate all things French and to celebrate the fun experienced in learning the language. This annual celebration is sponsored by the AATF (American Association of Teachers of French).

All classes watched videos about France or French characters, dressed according to the daily theme, and sampled some French food (especially Brie cheese). Merci mille fois (Many thanks) to the first period class (pictured above) who were responsible for selecting the themes, decorating the halls of OMS, and especially for decorating Mrs. Jackson's classroom.

THANKFUL SIXTH GRADERS

The holiday season is a time for everyone to reflect upon the many blessings they receive. The 6th grade students in Family and Consumer Science classes decided to show their gratitude by giving to others. The students



baked over 125 loaves of pumpkin bread that were served at the Community Thanksgiving Dinner held on November 21. About 500 meals were served to residents in the Olean area. The students also made greeting cards that were distributed to the guests in attendance.

In December, the students also baked cookies that were distributed to families in the area through the Olean Food Pantry. The ingredients for the cookies were graciously donated by the students. This activity proved to be meaningful as well as fun for all of the 6th grade students.





Dancer Goes to School:

Boardmanville was visited by a genuine reindeer in December. The students learned many interesting things about how reindeer live; they got to hold reindeer antlers and even pet "Dancer".



Thanksgiving Napkin Holders: The third grade students at Boardmanville continued their annual Thanksgiving tradition of making special napkin holders (right photo) and delivering them to Olean General Hospital to use on patients' meal trays.



Katy The Show Plow: Mrs. Chudy's class was visited by Katy the Snowplow in November. The students learned about the Snowplow and took turns sitting in the driver's seat. We had a great time!

Boardmanville Elementary School



Writing with Chalk: The students in Mrs. Stephens' reading group had a ball using chalk to write on the tables! They thought that it was the neatest thing and it wiped off so easily! They practiced their sight words and letters. They did not want to stop writing!! Try it!



Reading Around the World: Mrs. Bushnell's Reading Intervention group embarked on a journey around the world. The students made their own suitcases to hold their information as they studied holiday traditions in nine countries. In their suitcases they had mock plane tickets and passports, as well as a world map. Each day as the students "took off" to another country, they were reading about traditions and adding vocabulary and pictures to their suitcases. They were very excited to be on this journey that brought them home in time for their own family traditions.



Parents As Reading Partners (PARP): PARP is a program designed to encourage children to read at home with their family for at least 15 minutes a day. East View recently held a PARP program, using the theme, "Read Like a Rock Star". Students kept track of the amount of minutes they read to reach a school wide goal of reading a total of 40,000 minutes. The program wrapped up with a Glenn Colton concert that included a special treat – several of the staff performing as The Beatles. Thanks to our reading teachers, Ms. Havens, Mrs. Swetland, and Mrs. White for coordinating this program.



5th Graders Blasting Off: Thanks to a grant from Walmart, and in cooperation with the St. Bonaventure University Quick Arts Center, East View 5th Grade students are planning to visit the Challenger Learning Center in January. This facility is an "interactive computerized simulator with a Mission Control patterned after NASA's Johnson Space Center and an orbiting space station. The two-hour mission is an opportunity for students to see themselves in the role as a successful scientist, engineer, or researcher."

Team Work! Mrs. Sakala's and Mrs. Mest's kindergarten class teamed up with Mrs. Dempsey's and Mrs. Ullman's fifth graders each Wednesday. The fifth grade students made flash cards and games individualized for each learning buddy. The kindergarteners are getting one-on-one practice with sight words, letter recognition, segmenting and blending. The fifth graders are responsible for the record keeping, figuring out percentages and time management.



East View Elementary School

Flat Stanley Visits East View: Mrs. Rogozinski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Bowser, and Miss Burns' 1st and 2nd Grade classes are currently corresponding with a 1st and 2nd grade from Rural Hall, North Carolina. We are doing a project with Flat Stanley traveling between schools. Flat Stanley is a character in a book, who travels around visiting family and friends, taking pictures and reporting back to share his experiences.

At the end of the project, we will have the opportunity to meet each other through the use of a Polycom (an interactive web program).



Germ Glo Hand Washing Program: Bev Bennett, Assistant Health Educator at the Cattaraugus County Health Department, recently visited East View where students along with their teachers participated in the Germ Glo Hand Washing Program. This program reinforces proper hygiene for both children and adults. Washing our hands correctly and frequently helps keep us all healthier.





Firing Up the Kiln: It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Mrs. Nickel's first grade students have been creating clay Christmas trees. The students enjoyed building their clay on a cardboard armature, firing it in the kiln, glazing it for color enhancement, and decorating it with sequins! Mrs. Nickel plans on expanding this art form into other grade levels throughout the year.



Winner of the Snowflake Award: Congratulations to the IJN family for having the most participants walking in the Santa Claus Lane Parade! Our beautiful trophy is on display for all to see! Many thanks to those who worked on the float and walked along in support of our students!

Ivers J. Norton Elementary School



IJN Art on Display at SBU: IJN's fourth grade teachers, Mrs. Kallenbach and Ms. Stuff, have been teaching their students about Native American culture. The teachers had students create an art project that reflects what they've learned in class. Students shared their projects with their classmates. Through our partnership with Saint Bonaventure University, our students will have the opportunity to share their creations in a grand way! From Saturday, January 9th, to Friday, January 15th, our students' work will be on display at the Quick Arts Center on the campus of SBU! All are welcome to attend the opening of this display with a special reception on Saturday from 2-4 p.m. On display will be: long houses, ceremonial masks, canoes, corn husk dolls, headdresses, peace pipes, and much more! We look forward to seeing you there!



Paws-i-tive Attitudes: IJN staff are always on the lookout for positive attitudes and great behavior. Staff members reward students with a PAWS card when Positively Awesome Work is Sighted. These cards are then entered into a drawing for a special lunch served each Friday. Students also wear our PAWS shirts for the day! Keep up the great work! We'll be watching!

Hi Ho Ice Cream Treat: Our students benefit from the many ways we partner with the community. The support from local businesses and organizations is greatly appreciated and a much needed part of the education process. Whether its reading to students, inviting classes for field trips, providing tutors, sponsoring a special meal, or donating a treat, our students know that people care about them and their educational success! The IJN family thanks Mr. and Mrs. Andy Boser (Hi Ho) for their generous ice cream donation! It was used as part of our character education program as a way to thank our students for making great choices.





Mystery Reader: Mrs. Woodring's first graders have begun being visited by Mystery Readers! Every Friday, students receive clues throughout the day about the Mystery Reader and try to guess who will be sharing a story with them. Our class was thrilled that our Principal, Mr. Whitcher (pictured at left), was our first Mystery Reader! We can't wait to see who visits us next!

Washington West Elementary School



Kindergarten Feast: Kindergarten students at Washington West prepared a Thanksgiving feast for their friends and modeled guests at the first Thanksgiving dinner by donning costumes. The food was delicious and the company even better!



Let's Go to Mexico! During the month of December, Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Monroe's classes studied a theme unit on Mexico. As an anticipatory set, Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Monroe dressed up in Mexican attire (above) and spoke Spanish to the class. The students enjoyed this introduction. They were tiered in 3 groups and classes were taught in geography, culture, society, math, art, and literature. Our guest speaker, Mrs. Betsy Cashing (right), taught the students four lessons on the Spanish language. As a culminating activity, the students will make a salt map of Mexico and participate in a Mexican Fiesta. What a great way to learn Social Studies!



OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

410 W. Sullivan St.

Olean, NY 14760

www.oleanschools.org

NON PROFIT
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U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Permit No. 73
Olean, NY 14760

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Jeffrey Andreano, Assistant High School Principal
Gerald Trietley, Middle School Principal
Lawrence Welty, Assistant Middle School Principal
John White, Boardmanville Elementary Principal
David Olson, East View Elementary Principal
Linda Nottingham, Ivers J. Norton Elementary Principal
Joel Whitcher, Washington West Elementary Principal
Lynn Corder, Director of Personnel/Reading First Coordinator
Judith Creeden, Director of Curriculum (K-5) and Testing, & C.I.O.
Marcella Richmond, Director of Special Education
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OR CURRENT RESIDENT**



**OLEAN CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Mission ...

"Home, School and Community
Educating for Life"

Values ...

- Excellence
- Honesty/Integrity
- Learning
- Mutual Respect
- Resourcefulness
- Responsibility & Accountability
- Sensitivity to Diverse Needs
- Teamwork

Strategic Themes ...

- Curriculum and Instruction
- Facilities & Learning Environment
- Finance/Resource Management
- Building Relationships



OHS Girls Swimming 200 Yard Medley Relay Team wins State Title at the NY-SPHSAA Championships held at Webster High School on Saturday, November 21, 2009. The winning time of 1:49.36 was also a new OHS school record. The OHS team of Rachel Bantelman (backstroke), Grace Williamson (breaststroke), Summer Sawaya (butterfly) and Emily Simon (freestyle) also swam a qualifying time of 1:49.34 on Friday, which was the BEST time of the state championships. Congratulations to our "State Champions", Coach Brown and Coach Johnson.