



LEAN

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Home, School and Community Educating for Life"

December 2013 / January 2014

Volume 10, Issue 3

Sargent Named All American

Makayla Sargent is Olean/Portville's first High School All American student athlete and individual state champion. She earned this distinction recently at the NYSPHAA Girls State Swimming and Diving Championships held at Ithaca College. Makayla won the 200 Individual Medley in a school record time of 2:02.80. She also earned All American consideration in the 100 Butterfly, placing 3rd in another school record time of :56.06.

Makayla is a sophomore at Portville. She is also a nationally ranked USA Swimmer. She recently swam at the 2013 AT&T Winter Senior National meet placing 19th in the 400 Individual Medley.



Pictured during a surprise presentation are (l-r): Mr. Joel Whitcher, OIMS Principal for grades 4 & 5; Mrs. Kim Kruse; Mr. Gerald Trietley, OIMS Principal for grades 6 & 7; Dr. Colleen Taggerty, OCSD Superintendent; and Mrs. Nancy Marvin.

Pair of OIMS Employees Lauded for Heroic Efforts in Cafeteria

"Hero: a person who is admired or idealized for courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities."

At the Olean Intermediate Middle School, there are two employees who are definitely heroes. Mrs. Kim Kruse was supervising the OIMS cafeteria when she felt a student grab her arm. He was unable to speak and his face was flushed. Mrs. Kruse immediately assessed the situation, as she had been trained to do during a first aid course taken at a district Staff Development Day. She turned the student around and performed the Heimlich maneuver on him. The item which the student was choking on was expelled from his throat, and he began breathing again. A feeling of relief quickly overcame Mrs. Kruse who was happy that she was able to help.

On another occasion, Mrs. Nancy Marvin was supervising the OIMS cafeteria when a student ran up to her with his hand at his throat, which is automatically seen as a cry for help, "I'm choking!" The look on the student's face was enough for Mrs. Marvin to use the training she had received during her years as a lifeguard to perform the Heimlich maneuver. Mrs. Marvin saw the food dislodge from the student as she assisted him.

On December 4th, Mrs. Kruse and Mrs. Marvin were surprised with flowers and certificates of appreciation for their heroic efforts in helping students in need. On hand for the presentation were: Dr. Colleen Taggerty, OCSD Superintendent; Mr. Gerald Trietley, OIMS Principal for grades 6 & 7; and Mr. Joel Whitcher, OIMS Principal for grades 4 & 5. Both district employees were honored for their heroic efforts, but felt they were simply doing their jobs. Dr. Taggerty, Mr. Trietley, and Mr. Whitcher were happy to be able to recognize the employees' quick, and potentially life-saving, actions.

From the Superintendent Educational Transition Means New Possibilities

By Dr. Colleen Taggerty,
Superintendent

Over the past several years, the Olean City School District has re-worked curriculum maps to align to the Common Core Learning Standards and assessments; eased into the required changes in teacher and principal evaluations; and weathered a very difficult fiscal storm. In each area, the Olean community and staff gathered together to complete the work in such a way as to not disrupt the teaching and learning process. The success of our learners was, and remains, our number one priority.

The Common Core provides for a more rigorous curriculum that infuses 21st Century Learning Skills. The new teacher and principal evaluation process enhances discussion around instruction and assessment that align to the needs of the individual learner. When combined and implemented fully, an educational transition is inevitable. To better understand the shifts in the curriculum and assessments, please inquire with teachers, principals, me and/or visit the engageny website at www.engageny.org

Together we provide the gift of continuous learning. In doing so, we ensure that each student has the opportunity to dream about the possibilities that exist for them and to excel beyond what may have seemed impossible to attain.

A new year is upon us and with it comes new possibilities and exciting adventures for our students, staff, and entire school community. Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be." Let us decide to be the people who are open to new ideas, who engage in meaningful educational dialog that will enhance opportunities for all students, and ones who embrace continuous improvement in teaching, leading and learning. Let us be the people who secure a future for our youth of today.



Professional Development Focuses on NYS Common Core Standards



Teachers throughout the high school have been working diligently on the Common Core State Standards. During a recent development day, eighth grade teachers Heather Billings, Katie Camp, Wendy Smith, Diana Dunbar and Lucy Rohrs worked with BOCES Staff Specialists Mark Carls (*top photo*) and Lauren Stuff (*middle photo*) analyzing test scores to determine areas of strengths and weaknesses. In addition, Algebra teachers Jennifer Gilman, Dylan Shaw and Carrie Peters (*bottom photo*) spent the day pulling apart the high school Common Core Math standards and the 5 Algebra Modules.

Support the 'Souper Bowl of Caring'

This February, the Souper Bowl of Caring will have provided members of the Olean community with food for 15 years. The SBoC helps young people to understand the need that exists in our community and to take action to help others. The Olean Food Pantry relies on the SBoC to help stock its shelves, so it is able to service the 745 households that rely on it to feed their families. Most of the new clients of the pantry this year are families who work but need help making ends meet, have been recently laid off, or have had their food stamp allowance reduced. The need to make this year's Super Bowl of Caring a success is crucial.

During the week of January 27, 2014, the Olean City School District is sponsoring this year's food drive. Olean High School student volunteers in grades 8-12 will be coordinating the food and money collection in all of the District's schools and in local businesses and churches. Donations will be collected through Super Bowl Sunday, February 2. If your business or organization is interested in collecting food or making a monetary donation, please contact Marie Rakus at mrakus@olean.wnyric.org or 375-8010.

The Olean Food Pantry and OCSD are so grateful for the incredible generosity the Olean community has shown year after year.

Olean City School District Newsletter

Cafeteria Reminders to Parents; Breakfast Available to Everyone



In addition to the regular breakfast that is available, the High School cafeteria has begun a new breakfast program. Students can come to the cafeteria, using the Fourth Street doors near the gym, for breakfast beginning at 7:00 a.m. Breakfast items on the menu include fresh baked muffins, breakfast sandwiches, whole wheat Pop-Tarts, cereal and hot chocolate. Come join us to start your day with the most important meal of the day.

Every student who is eligible for free and reduced meals can eat both breakfast and lunch each day. Price for reduced meals is \$.25. Menus are available on the district web site. A main entree' as well as side dishes are available daily.

SCHOOL	BREAKFAST BEGINS	PRICE
High School	7:00 a.m.	\$1.40
OIMS	7:15 a.m.	\$1.30
Washington West	8:10 a.m.	\$1.25
East View	8:15 a.m.	\$1.25

Meal Charge Policy

- ❖ Meal charges will be limited to **\$10.00**.
- ❖ Students with charge balances on their account will become part of the weekly automatic call system for negative balances. Twice monthly a letter will be sent to the home for those charges.
- ❖ After reaching \$10.00 in charges your child will not be eligible to receive a choice of meal from the menu, but will be provided with cereal, juice and milk for breakfast and a sandwich, fruit and milk for lunch until charges are eliminated. Parents will be responsible for the cost of meals distributed in this manner.
- ❖ For you and your child's convenience prepayments will be accepted at your child's school and placed on their account.
- ❖ Additional information regarding the District's Food Service Program can be found on the Olean City School District's website.

VoIP Coming to Olean City Schools

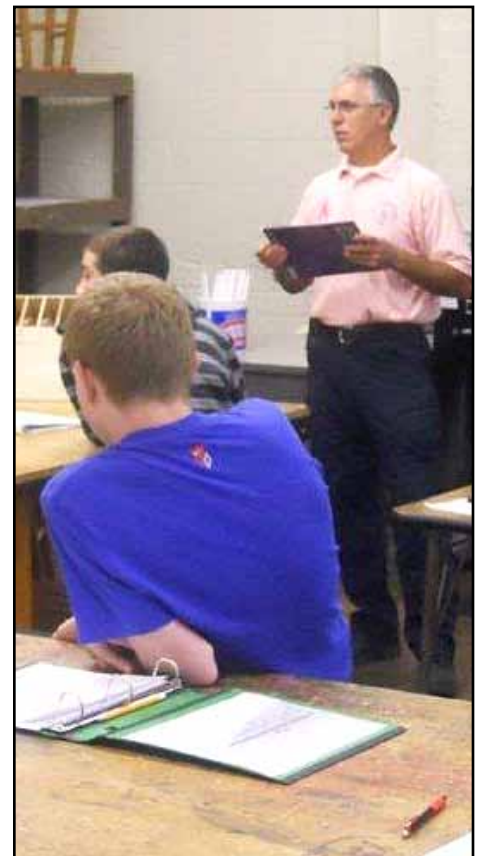
Not to worry, VoIP is neither the new strain of flu virus nor the most recent rock band gone viral! It is the new phone system for the district. The acronym VoIP stands for Voice over Internet Protocol and is pronounced "voyp". Yes, phone service over the Internet. Starting in January, 2014, VoIP will be our new voice communications system that uses our data network to make and receive phone calls.

The biggest reason for replacing our current phone system for a newer, more up-to-date one is the availability of (or more precisely, lack of) replacement parts for our current phone system. Replacement parts for the district's current phone system are no longer manufactured and finding needed replacement parts has become increasingly difficult.

The conversion to VoIP began in September with the replacement of all of the switches throughout the district

and the addition of the VoIP server to the network. Additionally some new copper lines (called POTS lines) were installed in Olean Intermediate Middle School. New VoIP phones will begin appearing in classroom and offices around the district. The planned cut over to the new VoIP system will occur before Jan. 6, 2014.

All buildings and office phone numbers will remain the same. High School classroom phone numbers will be changed to reflect the renumbering of those classrooms. When parents and community members call the district or building they will notice a few differences. One new addition will be the ability to press a digit and say a department or person's name for quicker connection. Another change that will be instituted is that teacher's extension can be reached during the day; however, the call will go directly to their voice mail.



City Code Officer Shares Knowledge with Classes

This year we were able to offer students classes in Residential Construction. Throughout the year, students will be learning about modern construction methods and materials used in the carpentry field. Students will gain hands-on experiences using these methods and materials as well as proper and safe use of tools and equipment. At the present time students have completed detailed drawings of utility sheds that will be constructed in the spring. Scale models of these sheds are also being constructed to show construction methods as well as detailed material list for full size sheds.

Ed Jennings, from the City of Olean Code Enforcement Office, visited two of the Applied Technology classes earlier this fall. Students gained valuable information about building codes and safety issues pertaining to construction and residential structures. Students were able to ask specific questions pertaining to the construction of the sheds and residential structures in general.



New Members Inducted into Honor Society

Olean High School recently inducted 42 new members to the National Honor Society. Students were chosen in a highly selective process based upon general excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Character and were honored at a luncheon held at the Old Library Restaurant. Students are advised by Mrs. Katie Wolfgang.

Shown in the front row are (l-r): Sarah Lang, Ciara Heister, Madelyn Hamed, Brianna Magro, Monica Moses, Alexandra Rakus, Clare Sorokes, Olivia Anzivine, Kahlee Bowen, Michaela Byrne, Mary Pezzimenti, Haley Freeman, Samantha Harris.

Shown in the middle row are (l-r): Alyssa Abdo, Kaitlin Field, Kristin Murphy, Alexandra Woodworth, Matthew Smith, Katherine Skudlarek, Erin Zlockie, Alexis Sova, Julie Mulryan, Kathryn Ludden, Aileen Snow, Jake Cihak.

Shown in the back row are (l-r): Nicholas Patrone, Geoffrey Broadbent, Jorden Barr, Ethan Kelley, Charles Martin, Connor Prizel, Lauren Puller, Rachel Painter, Jared McLaughlin, Nicholas Martel, Adam Stark, Isaiah Jobe, Dylan Kranock, Dominique Crolle, Katherine Wintermantel.

Missing: Zaryan Evans and John Zamites.

Foundation Grant Provides New Computer Lab Equipment

The OCSD Foundation recently awarded a grant to Mrs. Jamie Anastasia, supervisor of the OHS Computer labs, to purchase new headsets with microphones attached for students to use. These new headsets will enable students to record their own narration when creating projects for various classes as well as listen to a variety of multimedia presentations. The Olean City School District Foundation, established in November 2002, was created to provide additional funds and in-kind donations to support special programs, curriculum enrichment and training in all Olean City Schools. Students pictured here recording poems for English class are (r-l) Kendall Ullman, Brooke Swetland, Tom Crino, Alexis Sova, Lexi Menter, Janelle Shaffer and Mrs. Anastasia.



Gettysburg Address Recited by 1,000 OHS Voices



The students and staff at Olean High School commemorated the 150th anniversary of the Gettysburg Address on Tuesday, November 19th by attending an assembly entitled "1,000 Voices" in the OHS auditorium. The event was organized by retired history teacher, Mrs. Janine Scholla, along with both current and retired members of the OHS History Department. Mrs. Chris Stavish's Marketing classes also put together an advertising campaign to promote the event. Mrs. Katie Wolfgang and Mr. Matt Perry served as the masters of ceremonies for the program, which included interviews with Civil War reenactors who represented the 154th New York "Hardtack" Volunteer Regiment and the 42nd Pennsylvania "Bucktail" Volunteer Infantry Regiment, multimedia presentations, student recitations accompanied by the OHS Orchestra under the direction of Mr. Rin Wada, a performance by the OHS Chorus under the direction of Ms. Jan Rhody and finally, the "1,000 Voices" recitation of the entire Gettysburg Address by students and staff from grades 7-12. Later that day, a small ceremony was held at the Civil War Veteran's Memorial in Lincoln Park where students placed a wreath, and members of the Allegany American Legion Ritual Team performed a 21-gun salute.

Joshua Chamberlain, the Union hero who won the Congressional Medal of Honor for the defense of *Little Round Top* on the second day of fighting at Gettysburg on July 2, 1863 once said: *"In great deeds, something abides. On great fields something stays. Forms change and pass; bodies disappear, but spirits linger, to consecrate the ground.... And reverent men and women from afar, and generations that know us not and that we know not of, are heart-drawn to see where and by whom great things were suffered and done for them...."* It is with these words in mind that the history teachers at Olean High, both past and present, remind all of us of the ultimate sacrifices made to defend our freedom and the importance of remembering our past.

Unified Sports Teams 'Hoop it up' at Lady Bonnies Game



On November 15th, as part of the SBU Women's Basketball home opener, two Unified Basketball teams from Olean and Allegany-Limestone took part in a half time game in front of several hundred fans. In addition to a wonderful experience for our athletes, the Bonnies beat Green Bay to kick off their season! Unified Sports allows students, with and without disabilities, the chance to work together and learn how to support one another in a team event. This same team played last April in a tournament and plans to do that again this year. More information will come home with students to seek participation after the New Year.



ASSEMBLY EMCEES

Kayla O'Connor and Mike Schmidt, OIMS seventh graders, were the emcees during the November Great Rewards' Assembly. The dynamic duo introduced guest speakers Mayor Witte and OCSD Superintendent Dr. Colleen Taggerty. Sixth and seventh graders read their prize-winning Bully Free Poems for the entire OIMS student body.



MONEY, MONEY, MONEY!!

Our OIMS annual school-wide fundraiser was another triumph! Between the great sales efforts of our students and the generosity of friends, family, and community members, our students sold over \$10,000 worth of merchandise. The profit from these sales comes back to our students through our Great Rewards program.

The top six sellers also earned a chance to grab some cash in the Money Machine! For the second year in a row, Ta'Shanti Phillips was our top seller, and had 40 seconds to grab what she could. Congratulations to our other Money Machine participants: Brianna Schwindler, Alexis Trietley, Korrey Keis, Zaine O'Brien and Tulli Rogers.

SIXTH GRADERS COUNTING

The holiday season is a time for everyone to reflect upon the many blessings they receive in their lives'. The 6th grade students in Family and Consumer Science classes decided to show their gratitude for the blessings they receive, by giving to others. The students baked over 100 loaves of pumpkin bread that were served at the Community Thanksgiving Dinner that was held on November 23, 2013. Special help was provided by Mia O'Brien, the District's new Director of Human Resources. Both ladies were helping the students preparing their recipe. Over 500 meals were served to residents in the Olean area and distributed to the guests in attendance.



In December, the students also baked 75 dozen cookies that were distributed to the community. The ingredients for the cookies were graciously donated by the students. Mrs. [Name] at the food pantry located at Bethany Lutheran Church graciously accepted the donations. There are many families in our area who would go to bed each night hungry if not for the help of the students. It was well as fun for all of the 6th grade students in Family and Consumer Science classes.

CLASSES COLLABORATE IN FIGHTING

October was national breast cancer awareness month. The students in Miss Ralston's ELA classes spent time researching the causes, symptoms, and treatments for Breast Cancer, as well as the goals of the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Firefighters from the Olean City Fire Department asked Miss Ralston's students to collaborate with them in their efforts to raise money for the Susan G. Komen Foundation.



After completing their research, the students created several posters for a poster boot drive on Friday, October 25. Lieutenant Tim Richardson and Firefighter [Name] collected the posters, met the students, and shared information about their careers. The only class they selected to make posters, and that they thought our posters were the best. They were honored to be a part of this and truly enjoyed their visit from the firemen.

THEIR BLESSINGS

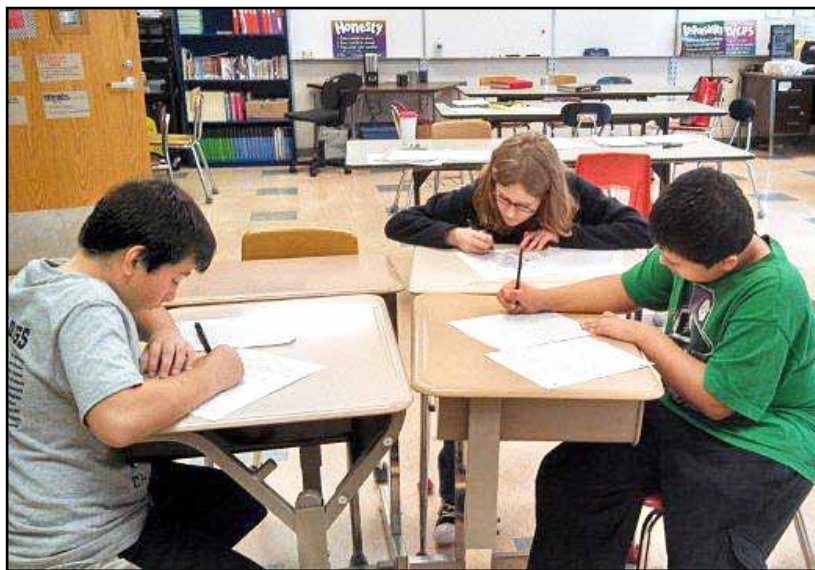


Helpers for this project were Dr. Taggerty, Superintendent who rolled up their sleeves and assisted the students in the area. The students also made greeting cards that were sent to families in the area through the Olean Food Pantry. Mrs. Cross, a former teacher in the district and a volunteer at the pantry. This activity proved to be meaningful as the students learned about the importance of giving.

HT AGAINST CANCER



Teachers that were on display during the Fire Department's visit. Gregory Eaton paid a visit to Miss Ralston's class to talk about the importance of being brave. "It felt really special when they told us we were the bravest" said one sixth grader. The students were proud to be a part of this operation.



OPERATION GRATITUDE

Sixth grade students in Mrs. Dempsey, Mrs. Magro, and Miss Ralston's reading classes were excited partner with Coatney Professional Center as part of Operation Gratitude in November. Operation Gratitude is an organization that "seeks to lift morale in the Military Community by sending care packages deployed overseas." The sixth graders each wrote a letter to a soldier, which was sent with a bag of Halloween candy. The sixth graders were encouraged to reflect on the position of a deployed soldier, and wrote letters thanking them for the service, wishing them a safe return, and blessings for a happy holiday season. The teachers are thankful that Dave and Sheri Coatney of Coatney Professional Center in Olean sought the help of our students in this endeavor. It is an important lesson in collaboration, appreciation, and gratitude. The students were proud of their letters and happy to be a part of this operation.



BULLY-FREE POETRY

OIMS sixth graders (l-r) Lydia Hendrix and Bella Carucci wait for their turn to read their Bully Free poems in front of the entire student body at the November Great Rewards' Assembly. Sixth grade poet, Brookelinn Garey, is at the podium sharing her poem with the students.





OHS Holds Pickleball Tournament

Geoffrey Broadbent and Mallory Bliss (*pictured at right*) won the Pickleball tournament sponsored by the High School Physical Education Department on October 24th. Pickleball is a paddle sport which combines elements of badminton, tennis, and table tennis. Sixteen doubles teams participated in the double elimination tournament.



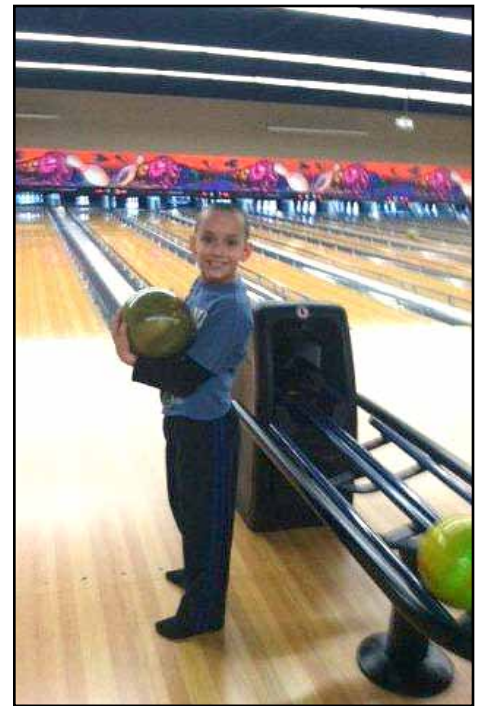
Olean CTE Names Outstanding Students

Congratulations to the outstanding students for the first quarter at the Olean Career and Technical Education. In left photo are juniors (front) Brene Vancleaf - Culinary Arts, and (back, l-r) Justice Peterson - Collision Repair/Auto Body, and William Gardner - Computer Systems Technology. In the photo above are seniors (l-r) Alissa Munday - Media Communications, Carolann Thayer - Animal Science, Telecia Hallock - Medical Professions and Joshua Lehere - Audio Visual Production. Absent from photo is Haley Porterfield, New Visions – Health Professions.



OIMS Art Classes Learn about 'The Nutcracker'

Students in Mrs. Nickel's Art classes learned about the story of the The Nutcracker and worked in small groups to collaboratively construct/create their own nutcrackers.



Letting the Good Times Roll on Halloween

This year to celebrate Halloween, the fourth grade students went to "Good Times." The students were each able to bowl two games. The bumpers really gave us all an "edge." The students especially enjoyed the electronic score boards. There was even a Halloween themed one! Also, we were treated to pizza, pop, and cookies for lunch. Other activities enjoyed by the children were the corn hole game, ping pong, and shuffleboard. The students received a compliment from the owner, as everyone was on their best behavior. It is safe to say a "good time" was had by all!



Washington West Wins Visit from Andy Parker and his Weather Machine

Washington West Elementary School was the winner of the Andy Parker/WGRZ Weather Machine contest. Andy Parker visited Washington West on October 28th to personally tell the students that WW had won the contest! Andy Parker brought his weather machine to the Olean High School on November 14th and invited WW and Olean High School students to participate in his presentation. Thanks to so many who made the effort to vote!! We are strongest when we work TOGETHER!!!!



Veteran's Day Guest: Mr. Mehler (*above*), father of a student, was a guest speaker for Veteran's Day in Mrs. Rogozinski's and Mrs. Bowser's classes. Mr. Mehler talked to the students about his service in the Air Force and his duties as a recruiter. He also gave each student a rubber fighter jet – and even an Air Force cap (*right photo*)!



Learning the iPad Way! Students in Mrs. Stephens' kindergarten class are learning on the new iPad's during center time. Various math and reading apps make for a lot of fun as they use technology to learn.



World Cup of Soccer: A Physical Education soccer unit assigned students in grades 2 and 3 a country to represent in the East View World Cup of Soccer. Students completed challenges including demonstrating outstanding soccer skill, showing great sportsmanship, and finding out a fact about their country to earn goals for their country. At the end of our unit, students participated in World Cup soccer matches. Team Italy, represented by Mrs. Bowser's and Mrs. Jedrosko's class, earned the most soccer goals.

East View Elementary School

Food Pantry Drive: Students and families participated in a food drive to support the Olean Food Pantry and the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry. To add some fun, a goal of at least 1,000 food items was set; if the goal was reached, the principal would dress up as a turkey. East View families generously donated over 1,170 food items to help others in our community (*right*). On the day the principal paid his debt, one first grader must have felt sorry for the principal and made his own turkey costume to wear (*left*).





iPads are iPerfect for Student Use: Pictured here are students from Mrs. Brooks' second grade class using the iPads that the WW second grade teaching team received from a two year technology grant. The second grade teaching team used their congruence time to apply for the grant together. The first year of the grant, each of the four teachers received an iPad to assist with instruction. The next year of the grant each second grade classroom received three more iPads for student use. Students use the iPad applications to reinforce the lesson objectives presented during math instruction. Second grade teachers use the iPads for accelerated reading exercises and comprehension tests.

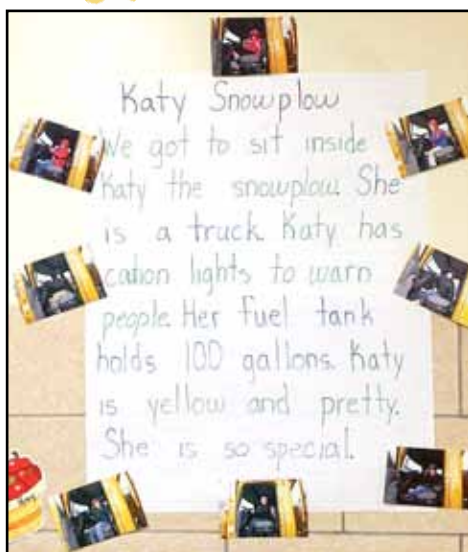


Veterans' Memorial Wall: Mrs. Larsen-Deibler and Mrs. Scanlon's first grade classes did a combined opinion piece writing activity on why our veterans are so important. The first grade students' opinion pieces and decorated soldier pictures were displayed outside of their classrooms. The names of each veteran were "etched" in stone – and their service to our country is forever etched into our hearts. Thank you to all service men and women!

Washington West Elementary School



Washington West Holiday Traditions: The Washington West PTO sponsored a Magical Night With Santa on Friday, December 13th. Santa was there for an evening of cookies, cocoa, face painting, crafts, games, and more! The PTO also sponsored the Holiday Shoppe in December. The Holiday Shoppe allowed students to purchase gifts for family and friends that were all \$1.00 each and wrapped right after purchasing.



Meeting Katy: Katy the snowplow made an appearance at Washington West Nov. 13 for Miss Nagel's, Miss Moore's, and Mrs. Abdo's classes. Bob Butler was kind enough to bring the plow and crew to inform students about Katy and go over safety rules for when a snowplow drives by. Students had a great time, and were even able to climb up and sit with Katy!!



December Character Traits – Kindness and Generosity: Pictured above are students from Mrs. Larsen-Deibler's first grade holding wrapping paper for the Washington West adoption of a local family from a community gift tree. Teacher aide Marcia Yurek headed this initiative and collected \$300 to purchase holiday gifts for a family of four!

OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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ADMINISTRATION

Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools
Kathleen Elser, Business Administrator
Barbara Lias, High School Principal
Jeffrey Andreano, Assistant High School Principal
Gerald Trietley, Olean Intermediate (Gr. 6-7) Middle School Principal
Joel Whitcher, Olean Intermediate (Gr. 4-5) School Principal
John White, East View Principal
Linda Nottingham, Washington West Principal
Mia O'Brien, Director of Human Resources
Marcella Richmond, Director of Special Education
Csobanka Woodworth, Technology Administrator
Jen Mahar, District Coordinator of State & Federal Aid Programs

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ECRWSS

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Pumpkin Decorating at OHS and OIMS

OHS Student Activities Council hosted a Pumpkin Carving Contest (*upper right*), with over 40 students participating. The pumpkins were displayed at the Halloween Dance. Thank you to Burton's Farmers Market for donating the pumpkins at a discounted price, and to all of the class advisors (Mr. Perry, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Lowe, Mrs. Rakus, Ms. Fox, Ms. Gilman, Mrs. Billings and Mrs. Camp) for making the event a success!

Students in Mr. and Mrs. Charles' classes at OIMS also took part in a pumpkin decorating contest (*lower photos*). Mrs. Mucke judged the pumpkins in the categories of scariest, funniest, cutest, and most creative. Prizes were awarded in each category and for participation.



Olean City School District Mission/Vision

The Olean City School District is a student-centered community of excellence in which all members are challenged to learn, achieve, contribute, and innovate.

Guiding Principles

A commitment to fostering:

A respectful, safe, and welcoming environment

An acceptance of diversity

Continuous improvement

Academic excellence and lifelong learning

Honesty, integrity, responsibility, and accountability

Student potential and achievement