



LEAN

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

"It takes ALL the Huskies to pull the sled."

March-April 2007

Volume 3, Issue 4

Pictured at right are students who competed in the Regional DECA Competition at Alfred University.

By Christine Stavish
Business Education Teacher

On January 4, ten of our DECA students participated at Alfred University in a Regional DECA Competition. This is Olean High School's first year as members in DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America), and our students all performed exceptionally well. Three of our DECA members did so well that they were invited to compete in Rochester on March 7-9. Nick Kolasinski was first for New York DECA Region 11/13. Because of this, Nick was definitely a candidate for the State Competition which is held at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center. Hannah Penman and Emily Mulherin also were invited to compete for the State Competition. Both girls scored very high in their Regional Competition and scored in the top three for their district.

Nick Kolasinski will be competing in the Sports & Entertainment Marketing test area; Emily Mulherin will be competing in the Apparel & Accessories test area; and Hannah Penman will compete in the Quick-Serve Restaurant test area. Over 2,000 students across NYS will be at the convention center ready to compete and represent their schools. If these students place in the top five (overall) at States in their test area, they can qualify to go to Nationals in Orlando which is the International Career Development Conference.

Good luck to Nick, Emily, and Hannah as they prepare for their state competition!

It's all business at OHS

Renewed Business Department continues to grow



By Susan Frentz,
Business Education Teacher

Many OHS students have part-time jobs or are seeking part-time employment. As a result, the Career and Financial Management class has been working very hard to compile a Career Portfolio. In an effort to create a functional Career Portfolio, students created a resume, wrote a letter requesting a character reference, and participated in a mock job interview. Students were required to dress professionally for their job interview, be prepared to answer questions during the job interview, make eye contact with the interviewer, and most importantly, express confidence while being interviewed.



Above, students are shown conducting a mock job interview to help build their skills.



Welcome, newest National Honor Society members!

The OHS Annual National Honor Society Induction ceremony and luncheon was held Sunday, Jan. 15 at the Old Library. Thirty-three juniors and one senior were inducted. They are exemplary students who demonstrated the four pillars of the NHS – leadership, scholarship, service, and character.

Above are (front, l-r) Mohammed Al-Samrai, Ashley Bly, Cassandra Bold, Alison Brady, Alyse Bright, Abram Brown, Nicole Burgess, Carrie DiRisio and (back, l-r) Sean Donahue, Breanne Driscoll, Reid Gan, Mark Gerwig, Meghan Guild, Jacob Hughes, Rachel Jermann, Megan Kane, Beth Leroy. Below are (front, l-r) Kathleen Lewicki, Steven Lewis, Rachel Lowry, Hinna Malik, Forrest Marvin, Anna Miller, Rachael Moscato, Tenisha Myszka and (back, l-r) Joseph Peakis, Kyle Schulze, Emily Sorokes, Matthew Strickler, Annmarie Ventura, Ethan Whipple, Katlyn Worth, Jeffrey Zambanini, Martha Zimmerman.



Task Force recommends Capital Project

By Mark J. Ward,
Superintendent

The District has moved one step closer to finalizing a Capital Project with the completion of the work of the Elementary Task Force. On February 1, the Task Force voted unanimously to recommend to the Board of Education that the District close the Ivers J. Norton (IJN) Elementary School, pursue a three-school Pre-K-5 Elementary alignment. Additions and renovations would have to be made at the three remaining schools so that each building would have equitable learning environments. The Task Force also recommended additional work at the high school.

Throughout the past year we have continued to hold public meetings and openly conduct a dialogue about the future of the Olean schools. Throughout the process we have consulted with our architects (Hunt), other school district officials, State Education Department and our fiscal advisors (Bernard P. Donegan Inc.). The following highlights for you the information that has helped the Task Force make their recommendation.

- The financial realities of the community play a huge role in what we can and cannot do. For instance, it is estimated that nearly \$400,000 can be saved by closing IJN which could be used to help pay the District's share of the project. Without the closure of a school the community cannot afford to upgrade the facilities we have.

- The committee was shown how poorly the condition of the school facilities in our District compare to neighboring schools.

- The District enrollment has experienced a fairly steady decline 1976 (3210 students), 1985 (2663), 1997 (2699), 1999 (2520), 2006 (2478), 2007 (2457).

- The Building Aid rate has risen to 92% which means that the state will give us 92 cents back on every dollar we spend on those items that are aidable.

- The State is providing EXCEL aid that will give Olean \$1.8 million for a voter approved project. This is additional money that will further reduce the local share of this project. EXCEL aid is a one

"We have continued to hold public meetings and openly conduct a dialogue about the future of the Olean schools."

time only aid. If we do not use it we lose it.

- The amount of aid we can get is based on the square footage in a building which means the larger it is the more aid we can get. With IJN (34,511 sq. ft.) being smaller than Boardmanville (BV) (50,752 sq. feet) our costs to upgrade are much higher with a lower aid rate which means the local tax effort will be higher to improve IJN than it is to improve BV.

- In order to provide adequate space for more students we will need to build additional space ... we own 7.7 acres at the BV site and we have no available space at IJN (site has 1.3 acres). Thus, we would have to purchase homes and take property off the tax rolls in order to expand and provide parking and green space for play area.

- Spending additional money on land reduces the money we can spend on furniture, desks, computers and other classroom finishes.

- Built in 1909, the condition of IJN is deteriorating with some improvements nearly impossible based on the age, construction and size of classrooms.

- While BV is also an older school (built 1924) it is in better condition and has far more land that we already own.

- The idea of a "new" stand alone elementary school to replace two older schools seems very remote due to the aid. New schools generate between 50-60% aid which means the local share would

increase significantly (i.e. \$14,000,000 building with 50% aid means taxpayers would pay \$7,000,000 while a 90% aid ratio on the same money would make the local effort \$1,400,000).

- The Middle School site was also looked at carefully but in order to locate a new elementary school there we would have to tear down the Athletic Complex which would then cost us \$1.2 million to replace and athletic fields will have to be relocated.

- Students in the IJN area will most likely all meet the one mile criteria for transportation so parents will no longer have to drive or walk them to school.

- Would the schools be perfectly located geographically? No, but again we have to do what we can afford given the economic realities that exist.

- What about neighborhood schools? We can no longer afford four elementary schools if we are going to keep pace with the learning standards and instructional needs of education in the 21st Century. The location of businesses, stores, services as well as the number of cars has changed life greatly since the 60's, 70's and 80's. We have to make choices based on the economic realities that we have as well as the way life is today.

- Will the elimination of another elementary school cause some inconveniences? There is no question that it will, but we are dedicated to support parents and remain open to "creative" ways to encourage continued involvement in their child's education ... which we know is a key factor to their success in school.

The Board is currently considering the recommendation of the Task Force and will soon make a final decision. Defining the scope and cost of the project (particularly the local share) will also be part of the Board's responsibility. Lastly, the Capital Project will be brought to the voters sometime in late August or the fall of 2007. Once the project is approved, it will take nearly three years to complete the work.

WINTER WEEKEND 2007

The Olean High School Winter Weekend Festivities were held on Saturday, February 3. The theme was "All That Jazz" with the song, "Luck Be a Lady" by Frank Sinatra. The crowning took place at midnight and the named King and Queen were Jared Parks and Meg McKeown (pictured below).



Level 2 and Level 3 sex offenders living in Olean City School District

The Olean Board of Education has approved a policy that requires all parents be notified of any Level 2 and Level 3 sex offenders who are living in our school district. A Level 3 offender is the most serious and the "risk" to the community is considered high. Therefore, the District will be using this newsletter to publish the Level 3 sex offender's name, address and other pertinent information related to the nature of the offense committed; Level 2 sex offender's exact address may not be disseminated.

For the public's convenience, we have established a "link" on the front page of the District's web site www.oleanschools.org with the NYS Neighborhood Predator Report. This link takes you to the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services where you can find additional information and the picture of any Level 3 sex offender living in our school district. We believe you have a right to know and will continue to notify you.

Steven M. Allen

603 E. Highland Avenue
1st degree sexual abuse, 2nd degree rape
Female 13

Steven Clemons

603 E. Highland Avenue
1st degree sexual abuse, 2nd degree rape
Female 13

Frank B. Cole

927 ½ Buffalo Street, Apt. 2
Forcible Touching
Male 9

Randy A. Cole

210 S. 8th Street
Sexual misconduct
Female 15

Frederick (Freddy) Crawford

14760
2nd degree sexual abuse
Male 11

Joseph C. Cucchiaro

109 W. Elm Street
2nd degree sexual abuse
Female 12 and 13

Jack E. Denning

314 S. 3rd Street
2nd degree sexual abuse
Female 11

Michael Gardner

115 S. Barry Street, Apt. 22
Out of state sex felony
Female 11

Fred George

410 E. State Street, Apt. C
2nd degree rape, incest
Female 12 and 15

Jaymar Griffin

14760
3rd degree rape
Female 15 and 16

Raymond A. Grygo

133 S. 3rd Street, Apt. D
2nd degree sexual abuse
Female 10

Victor L. Harrison

209 E. State Street, Apt. 5
2nd degree sexual abuse
Female 7

Richard T. Hurrel

14760
Out of state sex felony
Female 8 and 9

Richard M. Kline

346 W. Highland Avenue
2nd degree sexual abuse
Female 4

Daniel (Buddy) Langdon

215 W. Green Street
Sexual misconduct
Female 16

Lionel Luper

14760
3rd degree attempted rape
Female unknown

Dennis A. Merrill

615 ½ E. State Street, Upper Apt.
2nd degree sexual abuse
Female 12

Kyle Miller

14760
2nd degree sodomy

James A. Morey

14760
2nd degree sexual abuse
Male 25

Clifford Thompson

313 S. 3rd Street
1st degree attempted rape
Female 7

Maurice (Ed) Turner

317 N. 2nd Street, Apt. 23
1st degree sexual abuse
Female 10

Kenneth Werts

633 S. Union Street, Apt. 6
1st degree sodomy, 2nd degree sodomy
Male 12

New cafeteria charge policy takes effect on March 12

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am writing this letter to inform you of changes we are going to make concerning student charges in the school cafeterias. During the past couple of years the number of students charging lunch has increased dramatically and our "system of collection" has simply not worked. During the 2005-06 school year the District lost over \$13,000 due to charges that were not paid.

The District cannot afford to lose this kind of money and continue to provide free lunches at the expense of the taxpayers. Therefore, we have researched the issue and have identified the main reasons why this is happening:

- Some families who are eligible for Free and Reduced-Price Lunch/Breakfast simply are either unwilling to fill out the paperwork or do not understand how the program works
- When some people are billed for lunches they refuse to send money in to cover the cost of the lunches
- Some students are given money by their parents but spend it in other ways on the way to school or once they get to school
- Students use the lunch money to buy a la carte items and then do not have money for the lunch itself
- Some parents do not send money with their children
- Students charge meals and the District does not bill or notify the parents or guardians in a timely manner

We clearly recognize that our own system of notification has been flawed and parents often do not know there are charges until they have reached a very high amount. At the same time the District cannot be expected to provide free meals for students, so we need to find a fair way to provide meals but also a way to collect any money that is owed.

Effective March 12, 2007, the following new procedures will go into effect:

- Students will be allowed no more than three (3) meal (breakfast or lunch) charges.
- If a student exceeds three (3) charges they will receive cereal and milk for breakfast and/or a sandwich and white milk for lunch so that no student will go without. Parents will be responsible for the cost of any food that is distributed.
- The cashier will issue a "cafeteria charge" notification if there is a charge of any kind. Slips will then be given to the classroom teacher and sent home with the students in grades K-5.
- After three (3) charges students in the Middle School and High School will be given a "charge slip."
- Building Principals will contact families directly if procedures are not followed.
- We encourage families to pay in advance into their children's lunch account by making checks payable to "Olean School Lunch Fund."

If all of us work together on this I am confident that this "charge problem" will go away. Please help us make sure that your child receives the meal they want and that the District is paid for the food we are providing.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation and support!

Mark J. Ward,
Superintendent of Schools

Spanish Club travels for 2007 & 2008

Over **Spring Break 2007**, the OHS Spanish Club will be traveling to the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico.

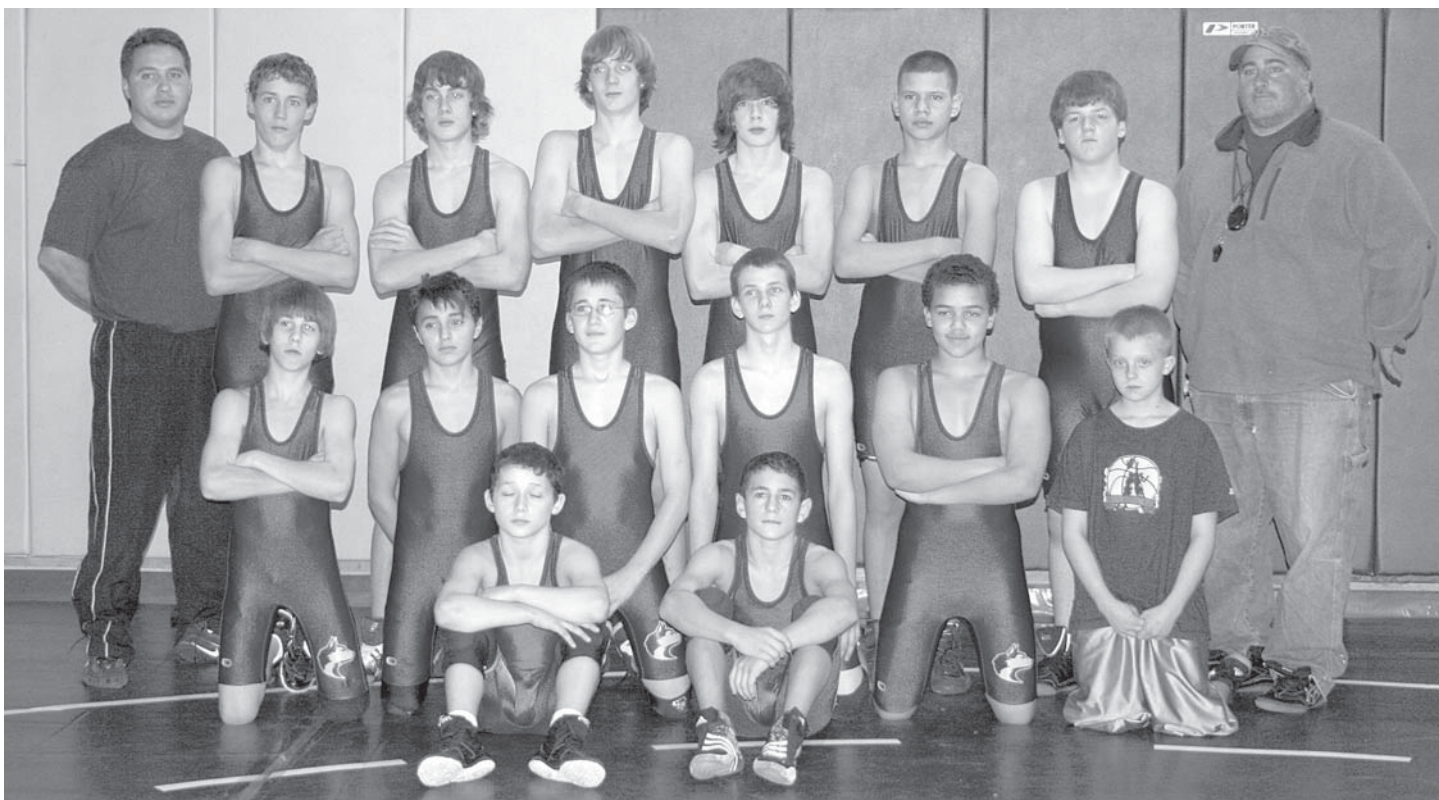
Our first stop is Cancun. We will enjoy the water and learn how to make tortillas. From there, we travel to Cenote X-Keken and the sacred Mayan city of Chichén Itza, where students will have an opportunity to climb El Castillo pyramid. We visit the former Mexican capital, Mérida, and explore the Mayan city of Uxmal. The legend is that the Magician's Pyramid was built overnight (of course, by a magician). We continue to Tulum and see the ruins of the walled Mayan city. We will board a ferry to the Caribbean island of Cozumel, a former Mayan trading center and ceremonial site. On our final day, we will take an excursion to the National Park of Chankanaab that has a seaside lagoon with natural caves and rock formations where we will hike and discover wildlife and plants native to the area.

All students will be required to keep a journal of each day's activities. Students will be utilizing all four communication skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing, while immersing themselves in the Mexican culture. We hope that this trip enhances their study of language and world culture.

We invite you to join the OHS Spanish Club in taking a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Peru in **Spring 2008**.

We begin our journey in Lima, the city that was founded in 1535 by Pizarro and which is now the capital. We then fly to Cuzco in the heart of the Andean highlands, where we follow the ancient Incan trail. The highlight of the trip is the visit to Machu Picchu. We will travel by train to this breathtaking "lost city" and explore the ruins.

If you are interested in traveling with us, please contact Mrs. Shannon at OHS for more information: 375-8010, ext. 3409 or cshannon@olean.wnyric.org.



Future looking bright for Olean Wrestling

Congratulations the modified wrestling team for having a very successful 2006 season. This year the team had an individual overall record of 111 wins, 38 loses, and 4 ties. Highlighting the season were eighth graders Desmond White (11-2), Andrew Klice (10-3), and a trio of seventh graders, Jake Baer (11-2), Jordan Smith (13-1-2) and Marcus Dwaileebe (12-1).

Three wrestlers - Andrew Panus, Zach Marra, and Dakota Spencer - were promoted to compete with the varsity squad.

Pictured above are: (front, l-r) Marcus Dwaileebe, Jake Baer and (middle, l-r) Zachary Marra, Jordan Smith, Andy Klice, Dakota Spencer, Desmond White, Hunter WhiteEagle and (back, l-r) Coach Larry Smith, Dustin Manwarren, Andrew Panus, Kyle Sisson, Chris Douglas, Bill Gill, Garret Black and Coach Jeff Gabler.

High school team competes at annual Scholastic Challenge

On Saturday, January 27, the team of Matt Hardenbergh, Ian Adelstein-Herrmann and David Allen travelled to Portville where they competed in the annual, BOCES-sponsored Scholastic Challenge. Each team answered questions during four, timed rounds. The questions consisted of general trivia in geography, literature, math, science, music and art. The Olean team won its first match before losing two, close matches in double elimination play.

SCHOOL CALENDAR CHANGES

The following changes have been made to the 2006-2007 School Calendar:

Friday, May 18 - half day dismissal for all K-12 students

Wednesday, June 20 - 11:15 a.m. dismissal K-5 students

Thursday, June 21 - 11:15 a.m. dismissal K-5 students

Thursday, June 21 - last day of school K-5 students

OHS 2007 SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULE

VARSITY BASEBALL

(Games at 4:30 p.m., unless noted)

April 14	ELLICOTTVILLE, Noon
April 16	at Falconer
April 17	at Wellsville
April 18	ALLEGANY-LIMESTONE
April 20	SOUTHWESTERN
April 23	at Portville
April 24	CUBA-RUSHFORD, 5 p.m.
April 25	at Dunkirk
April 27	at Gowanda
April 30	FREDONIA
May 1	FALCONER
May 4	at Allegany-Limestone
May 7	at Southwestern
May 8	WELLSVILLE
May 9	at Cuba-Rushford
May 11	DUNKIRK
May 14	GOWANDA
May 16	at Fredonia
May 18	PORTVILLE, 5 p.m.
May 19	BRADFORD, Noon



JV BASEBALL

(Games at 4:30 p.m., unless noted)

April 16	FALCONER
April 17	WELLSVILLE
April 18	at Allegany-Limestone
April 20	at Southwestern
April 25	DUNKIRK
April 27	GOWANDA
April 30	at Fredonia
May 1	at Falconer
May 2	ELLICOTTVILLE
May 4	ALLEGANY-LIMESTONE
May 7	SOUTHWESTERN
May 8	at Wellsville
May 11	at Dunkirk
May 14	at Gowanda
May 16	FREDONIA
May 19	at Bradford

MODIFIED BASEBALL

(Games at 4:30 p.m., unless noted)

April 17	ALLEGANY-LIMESTONE
April 21	FRANKLINVILLE, 10 a.m.
April 24	CATT.-LITTLE VALLEY
April 26	at Portville
April 28	at Allegany-Limestone, 10 a.m.
May 3	at Franklinville
May 5	at Catt.-Little Valley, 10 a.m.
May 8	PORTVILLE, 5:30 p.m.
May 10	ALLEGANY-LIMESTONE
May 12	at Hinsdale, 10 a.m.
May 15	at Franklinville
May 17	CATT.-LITTLE VALLEY
May 19	PORTVILLE, 10 a.m.
May 22	at Catt.-Little Valley

VARSITY GOLF

(Games at 4 p.m., unless noted)

April 20	CATT.-LV/CUBA-RUSHFORD
April 23	at James. w/Fredonia/Dunkirk
April 26	at Wellsville
April 27	FALCONER/JAMESTOWN
April 30	FREDONIA/DUNKIRK

May 3	at Falconer w/Fredonia
May 4	at A-L w/Falconer/Jamestown
May 7	CCAA League Qualifier, TBA
May 8	at Dunkirk w/Southwestern
May 9	at Southwestern
May 11	A-L/SOUTHWESTERN
May 14	Sec. VI State Qualifier, TBA
May 16	at Fredonia w/A-L
May 17	CCAA 3-Man Tourney, 9 a.m.
May 18	WELLSVILLE

VARSITY SOFTBALL

(Games at 4:30 p.m., unless noted)

April 10	at Hinsdale
April 16	at Falconer
April 17	at Wellsville
April 18	ALLEGANY-LIMESTONE
April 20	SOUTHWESTERN
April 23	at Portville
April 24	CUBA-RUSHFORD, 5 p.m.
April 25	at Dunkirk
April 27	at Gowanda
April 30	FREDONIA
May 1	FALCONER
May 4	at Allegany-Limestone
May 7	at Southwestern
May 8	WELLSVILLE
May 9	at Cuba-Rushford
May 11	DUNKIRK
May 14	GOWANDA
May 16	at Fredonia
May 18	PORTVILLE, 5 p.m.
May 19	BRADFORD, Noon
May 22	HINSDALE

JV SOFTBALL

(Games at 4:30 p.m., unless noted)

April 16	FALCONER
April 17	WELLSVILLE
April 18	at Allegany-Limestone
April 20	at Southwestern
April 23	PORTVILLE
April 24	at Cuba-Rushford
April 25	DUNKIRK
April 27	GOWANDA
April 30	at Fredonia
May 1	at Falconer
May 3	at Hinsdale
May 4	ALLEGANY-LIMESTONE
May 7	SOUTHWESTERN
May 8	at Wellsville
May 9	CUBA-RUSHFORD
May 11	at Dunkirk
May 14	at Gowanda
May 16	FREDONIA
May 18	at Portville
May 19	at Bradford, Noon
May 21	HINSDALE

MODIFIED SOFTBALL

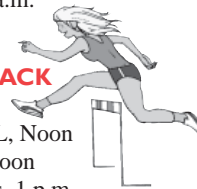
(Games at 4:30 p.m., unless noted)

April 17	ALLEGANY-LIMESTONE
April 21	FRANKLINVILLE, 10 a.m.
April 24	CATT.-LITTLE VALLEY
April 26	ARCHBISHOP WALSH
April 28	at Allegany-Limestone, 10 a.m.

May 3	at Franklinville
May 5	at Catt.-Little Valley, 10 a.m.
May 8	at Archbishop Walsh
May 10	ALLEGANY-LIMESTONE
May 12	at Hinsdale, 10 a.m.
May 15	at Franklinville
May 17	CATT.-LITTLE VALLEY
May 19	ARCH. WALSH, 10 a.m.
May 22	at Catt.-Little Valley

BOYS' & GIRLS' TRACK

April 5	BRADFORD, Noon
April 10	at Franklinville w/A-L, Noon
April 12	WELLSVILLE, 12 Noon
April 14	Frank. Panther Relays, 1 p.m.
April 19	at Pioneer, 4:30 p.m.
April 21	at Jamestown Classic, 10 a.m.
April 24	at Fredonia, 4:30 p.m.
April 28	OLEAN INV., 10 a.m.
May 1	GOWANDA, 4:30 p.m.
May 4	A-L Gator Relays, 4:30 p.m.
May 8	at Southwestern, 4:30 p.m.
May 11	at Falconer Invitational, 4:30 p.m.
May 15	at Falconer, 4:30 p.m.
May 18	Frank. Super 8, 5 p.m.
May 19	PENT. & STEEPLE., 10 a.m.
May 21	DUNKIRK, 4:30 p.m.
May 23	Falconer CCAA (JV), 4:15 p.m.
May 25	CCAA Champ., James., 4 p.m.
May 26	CCAA Champ., James., 10 a.m.
June 1	Sec. VI Champ., Starpoint, Noon
June 2	Sec. VI Champ., Starpoint, Noon
June 8	NYS Champ., Kingston, 10 a.m.
June 9	NYS Champ., Kingston, 10 a.m.



MODIFIED TRACK & FIELD

(Meets at 5 p.m., unless noted)

April 23	at Portville w/Sal., O-E, Wills., Scio
April 30	at A-L w/Portville, C-R, Sala.
May 7	FRANKLINVILLE, FILLMORE, G-V, PORTV.
May 14	at Wells. w/Fillmore, A-L, G-V
May 16	FRANKLINVILLE, A-L, PORTVILLE, G-V
May 21	at Portville w/Fillmore, A-L, C-R, G-V, Salamanca, Franklinville, Scio, Wellsville

BOYS' VARSITY TENNIS

(Matches at 4 p.m., unless noted)

April 16	at Gowanda
April 17	SOUTHWESTERN
April 18	at Allegany-Limestone
April 19	DUNKIRK
April 20	at Falconer
April 24	FREDONIA
April 25	ALLEGANY-LIMESTONE
April 26	at Cuba-Rushford
April 27	at Fredonia
April 30	at Dunkirk
May 1	GENESEE VALLEY, 4:30 p.m.
May 3	GOWANDA
May 4	FALCONER
May 8	DUNKIRK
May 9	at Southwestern
May 10	at Genesee Valley





PERFECT ATTENDANCE AWARDS

Perfect attendance award winners for the second quarter were Karimah Rahman shown above being congratulated by Assistant Middle School Principal Joel Whitcher; and Ashley Hutchison, shown below with Middle School Principal Gerald Trietley. Both of these young ladies received a \$50 check.



BLUE TEAM HONOR STUDENTS

The Blue Team teachers would like to acknowledge nine students who excelled in their academics during the second quarter. This acknowledgment recognized students who received a 90% or higher on their report card for all of the following subjects: English, social studies, math and science.

Congratulations go to (from left to right): Matt Witte, Kaitlyn Farrington, Taylor Stephens, Rebecca Lasky, Nicole Sova, Abbie Stavish, Alicia Broadbent, Lauren Stevens and Connor Charles.

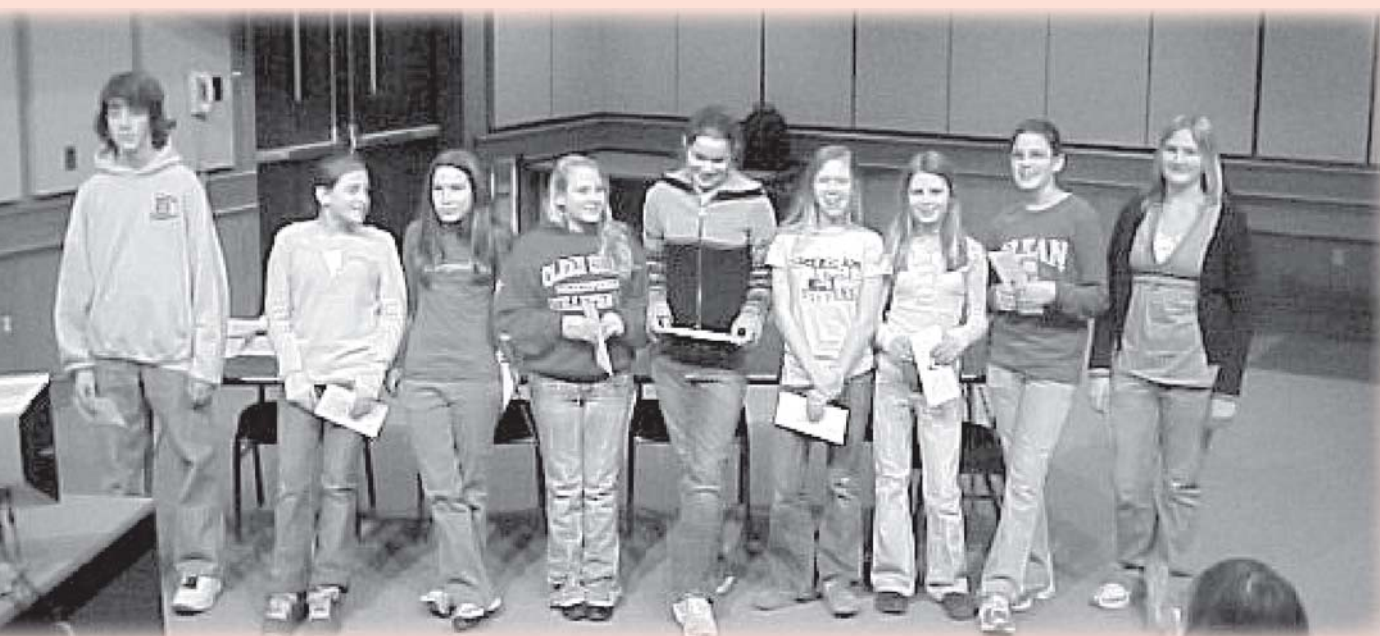
Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler!

Mrs. Jackson's French classes (some of whom are pictured at left) hosted their annual Mardi Gras celebrations during class. The parties' highlight, as always, was the serving of the traditional "King's Cake." Whoever found the hidden surprise, was then crowned king or queen of the class for the day!



SPELLING BEE CHAMPS

On January 18, thirty-four OMS students participated in the Annual Buffalo News Spelling Bee. There were many fantastic spellers and in the end, Soumitri Barua (above right) was named the 2007 OMS Spelling Bee champion and Jamal Klute (above left) was the runner-up. Soumitri and Jamal are both sixth-graders at OMS. On February 7, Soumitri participated in the county-wide written spelling test that was administered simultaneously across a 10-county area. The top 20 students from the written test advance to the Western New York Oral Final at the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society in March. Congratulations Soumitri and Jamal and to all participants!



M.S. vocalists sing at All-County and Solo Festival

On February 3, twenty middle school vocalists performed a NYSSMA solo at the All-County Solo Festival held at Allegany-Limestone Central School. Each student rehearsed with the directors since November. At the festival students performed their solo along with reading a piece of music at first sight. All of the soloists achieved an excellent or outstanding score on their solo.

A vocal judge listens to each student and grades them on tone, breathing, posture, dynamics, sight reading, musicianship, and accuracy of pitch and rhythm. We are very proud of our vocalists and commend them on a terrific job done! The vocal soloists were: Ashley Mousaw, Ashley Hutchinson, Abby Kahm, Ashley Maynard, Haley Jones, Maddy Stavish, Cheyenne Herner, Courtney Lentz, Heather Treaster (with Mrs. Eustis),

Sarah Stephan, Brittney Duffy, Jake Rickey, Desmond White, Anthony Vinscavage, Jason Kasper, Brittney Higby, Abby Stavish, Samantha Peters, Riley Branch and Karimah Rahman (with Mr. Snyder).

On February 10, the following students represented the Olean Middle School Vocal Music department in the Elementary All County Chorus. These students were: Chelsey Hall, Haley Jones, Kristi Lewis, Ashley Pavlock, Victoria Sainz, Madison Stavish, Julie Cottone, Jocelyn Eade, Hannah Forrest, and Audrey Jones. A combined representation from the Olean Middle School and Olean High School included the following students who represented Olean in the Junior High All County Chorus: Andrea Anastasia, Kaitlyn Anastasia, Kaitlin Harvey, Louise Penman, Sarah Stephan, Kasey Boutwell, Sariah Charleston, Chrystal Cybulski, Ashley Mousaw, Samantha Peters, Karimah Rahman, Heather Treaster, Melissa Vanness, Byron Herbert, Max Koski, JD Olson, Justin Scott, Anthony Vinscavage, Desmond White, and Jason Kasper. The festival was held at West Valley Central School.



Technology upgraded at M.S. library

Hot dog and woo-hoo! Researching at the OMS library just got faster and more fun as all the Windows '98 computers were replaced with much needed, new, state-of-the-art Dell workstations. Pictured above are Maleke Fuentes and Alicia Broadbent, the lucky students who were chosen to be the first to log on to the new computers.

February marks OMS' annual Pennies for Patients drive

Students at the Olean Middle School are participating in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Pennies for Patients Program. For the month of February, the students were encouraged to collect pennies, nickels, dimes and even quarters to raise money to support the research of leukemia, lymphoma and other blood cancers.

This year, the team that raises the most money will win a pizza party as a reward for their efforts. Last year, students in 115 local school districts collected approximately \$82,000 for Pennies for Patients. This really shows that students do have the power to make a difference in the lives of people who need their help.

In the last two years, Olean Middle School students have earned close to \$3,400. Last year, the students earned \$1,816! This year our goal is to raise \$1,900. During the month of February, fun activities were planned that supported

the Society. On Friday, February 23, the Olean Middle School students held a dance that helped to raise money for the Pennies for Patients Program.

The support of the Olean Middle School students will really help advance the mission to cure leukemia, lymphoma, blood cancers, and help patients and their families deal with these diseases. The local Chapter has approximately 2,000 patients on their roster. Each patient is eligible to receive up to \$500 per year in direct financial reimbursements to help with costs not covered by their insurance, as well as benefiting from other programs and services that the Pennies for Patients offers.

This year's honor hero for the Olean Middle School is Lauren Lawless, a seventh grade student on the Yellow Team. We are more than happy to help and support Lauren and the Pennies for Patients Program.



Family Reading Night: Mrs. Stephens' kindergarten class at Boardmanville celebrated a reading night on January 30. Children came with their parents and siblings (in their pajamas!) to enjoy hot chocolate, cookies and a good book. Children shared with their families their handwriting books, poetry books, ABC books and the class books that are made each week. This event also gave parents the opportunity to meet and greet Mrs. Stephens' student teacher, Mrs. Michelle Robinson. The event was such a success, that a special night will be given each month to share the great work they have been doing during Reading First.

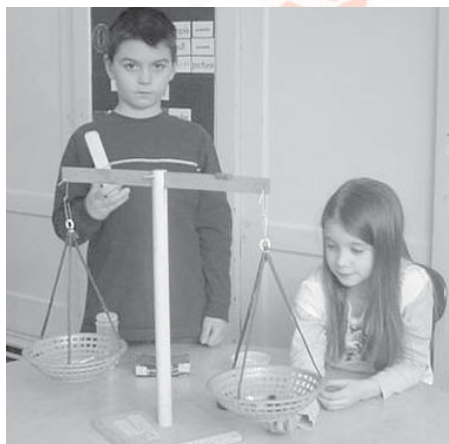


Second Grade State Tours: Mrs. Bushnell's class is learning about states in the USA. Each student is researching their own state and comparing it to New York. They are using books, games and the internet to do research. They used a laptop computers to write business letters to each state capital to inquire about information. The children also wrote friendly letters to family and friends who live in other states. These letters were delivered with story character, Flat Stanley, and requested that the recipient show Stanley around their state. We are anxiously awaiting Stanley's return to learn more about our states.

Boardmanville Elementary School



Reading All the Way to Ireland: Students in Mrs. Olson's third grade read for miles, during the school-wide reading program, to get to Ireland. Mr. Olson came and shared his Irish drum and some special music. Dr. O'Connell (pictured above) shared his Irish trip pictures, special foods, and a wealth of knowledge about Ireland. Their visits added to the reading fun.



Finding Mass in Science Class: Pictured at left are students in Mrs. Budzinski's second grade using a pan balance and gram cubes to find the mass of five large paper clips. One is holding a bundle of tongue depressors which they intend to use next. The pan balance is part of the measurement science kit from BOCES for the second grade science curriculum. The students used the gram cubes to find the mass of various objects.

Celebrating Chinese New Year: As part of the China unit, the third grades at Boardmanville welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Allen (parents of Emily Allen) to show pictures and tell stories of their adventures in China. Mr. Allen (shown at right) taught the children how to use chopsticks and how to count to 10 in Chinese. On February 16, the children celebrated Chinese New Year (really Feb. 18) with a Chinese buffet, dragon masks and songs.

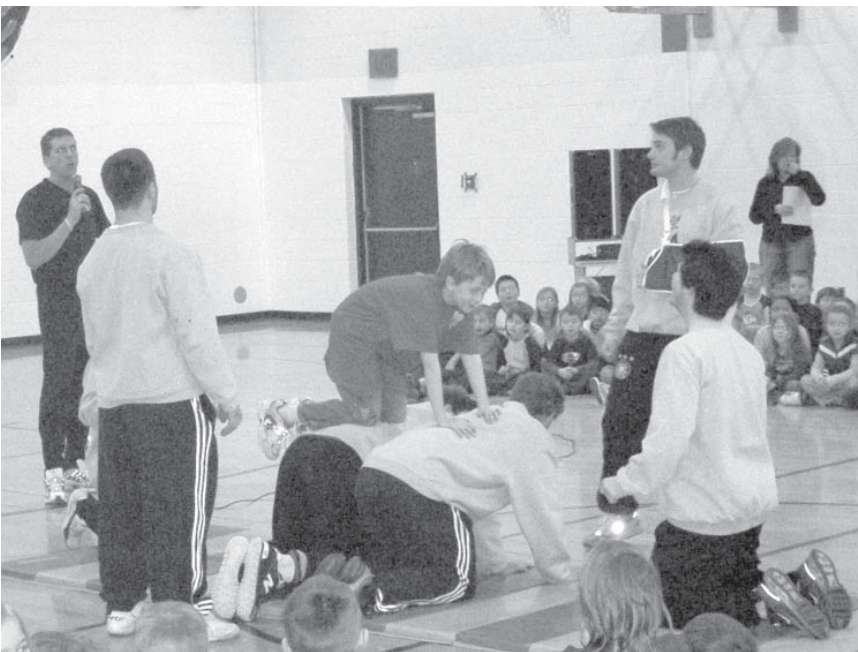




Teddy Bear Tea: Mrs. Rogozinski and Mrs. Bowser's classes had a Teddy Bear Tea as a culminating activity of a multi-age unit on bears. They studied different types of bears, their characteristics, and their habitats. They enjoyed tasting honey and making "jam-berry." Each child took home a handmade bear. Students brought in their favorite bear and shared a speech with the class.

Teachers Receive Grant for District Project: Karen Rogozinski and Sherrie Bowser wrote and submitted a grant request from the Olean City School Foundation. The grant will make it possible for author and literacy consultant, Sandra Phillipson, to visit Olean's four elementary schools. Each school's PTO and the Microtel Inn and Suites will also provide monies. Ms. Phillipson will be in Olean March 19 to 22. She has written a number of books including "Max's Wild Goose Chase" and "Max and Annie's Mysterious Campfire." There will be hands-on exhibits, interactive activities, and illustration lessons. Her three dogs will be accompanying her.

East View Elementary School



PARP at East View: The annual PARP (Parents As Reading Partners) program took place recently at East View Elementary. Coordinated by Title I Reading teachers, Kelly Havens and Gloria Swetland, this year's program used a soccer theme to motivate the students to read. At the kick-off assembly (see photo at left), the coach and members of the St. Bonaventure University men's soccer team presented a demonstration of soccer skills and determined the number of minutes that would be the goal for the students to read during the two week program. Other components of the program included members of the St. Bona men's soccer team returning to East View on several occasions to read to various classrooms, as well as special designated days such as hat day, crazy sock day and TV turn off night. The classrooms who reached their goal were rewarded with a pizza party.



Quilting as a Class: Mrs. Deibler and Mrs. Marsfelder's class read the book *The Coat of Many Colors*. The book told the story of a girl who had a coat made out of rags that her mother found. Our classes talked about how material things are not important in order for you to be happy. To end the book, students created their own class quilt using fabric. Each student decorated a square of what is important in their lives. When finished, we sewed it together and now it is hanging in the front of our classroom.

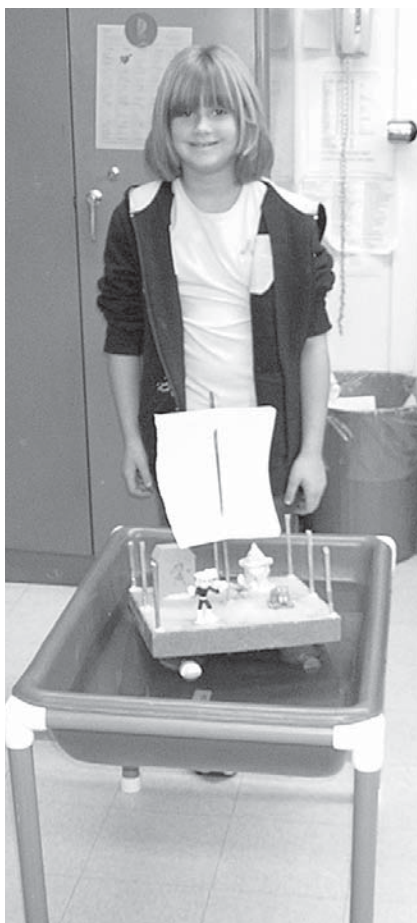


Sending a Little Bit of Olean to Iraq: Former East View student, Christopher Stavish, is currently serving as a marine in Iraq. Karen Rogozinski and Sherrie Bowser's First and Second Graders have tried to send a bit of home. Six boxes of goodies, cards and letters were sent at Christmas and four more boxes were sent in January. Thank you to all our parents for your creative ideas. We're hoping for his safe return to U.S. soil in April. Christopher is seated and wearing sunglasses.



Sight Word Snowball Fight: Mrs. Sakala's class challenged Ms. Breen's class to a sight word snowball fight! The challenge was on. Mrs. Sakala's kindergarten class wrote a letter challenging Ms. Breen's kindergarten class to a snowball fight. Dressed in mittens and hats, the classes met in the lower court of East View. Ready, aim, fire... the fight was on! Both classes tossed paper snowballs back and forth. When the whistle blew everyone stopped, picked up a snowball and opened it. Each class took turns reading the sight words printed on the snowballs. Each time a child correctly read the word, the class got a point. They made it back into a snowball and the fight was on again. The children really enjoyed this learning game.

PTO Family Fun Night: East View PTO's Annual Family Fun Night will be held at the school on Friday, **March 16, from 6-8 p.m.** The Family Fun Night features games, food, and a bouncing gym and slide. A new addition to this year's Family Fun Night is a "photography studio" where a family can have their portrait taken. We hope all East View families will join us for an evening of fun.



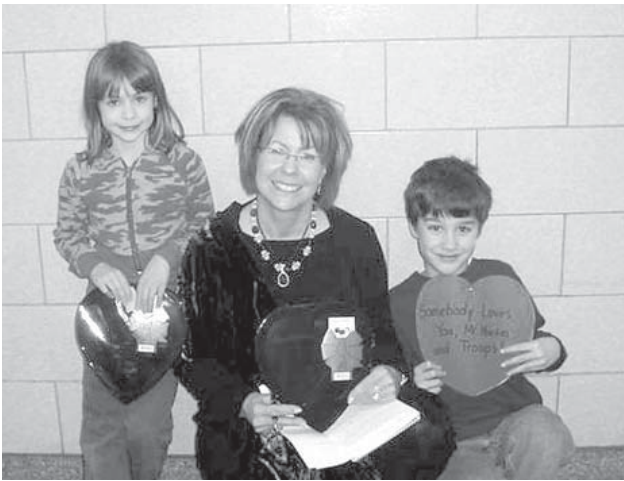
Ahoy Matey! The third-graders at IJN have set sail on a learning experience about buoyancy. They have been engaged in many activities. The children had to design a boat that would float as part of a homework assignment. The boats were then put to the test. All boats passed with flying colors. Great job, third-graders!

Ivers J. Norton Elementary School



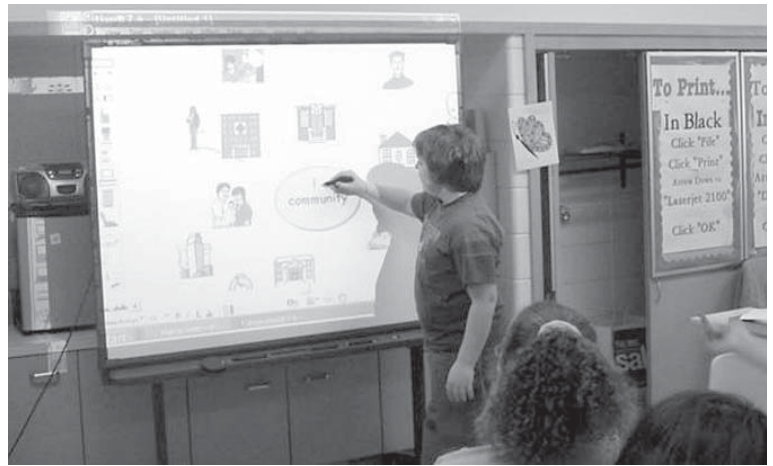
Parachutes, Parachutes, Parachutes: Students in Miss Morey's physical education class participated in cooperative activities using a parachute (see photos at right). Research shows there are many benefits to cooperative learning, including the development of lifelong learning skills. Among other things, cooperative learning provides students a chance to belong to a group (small or whole), to become responsible for themselves as well as to the group, and to develop and utilize interpersonal skills. Accomplishing a group goal is an accomplishment for all. Henry Ford said, "Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."





Somebody Loves You, Mr. Martin and Troops!

Mrs. Brooks' and Mrs. Lewicki's second-graders "teamed-up" and displayed good citizenship. They helped to boost the morale of troops stationed in Iraq by making a "Valentine's Day Care Package" to send to them. The title of the students' project was "Somebody Loves You, Mr. Martin and Troops" in honor of a very special Washington West teacher/colleague, Mr. Brian Martin. Washington West principal, Mrs. Vecchio, helped with this activity to make it extra special for her Husky Pups.



Becoming Autonomous Learners While Using Technology:

Ryan, a fifth-grader in Mrs. Monroe's class, is shown above using the Smart Board during an I-Safe (Internet Safety) lesson. Fourth-graders from Mrs. Paladino's class are shown below working on developing touch-typing skill by using the "Type To Learn" program.



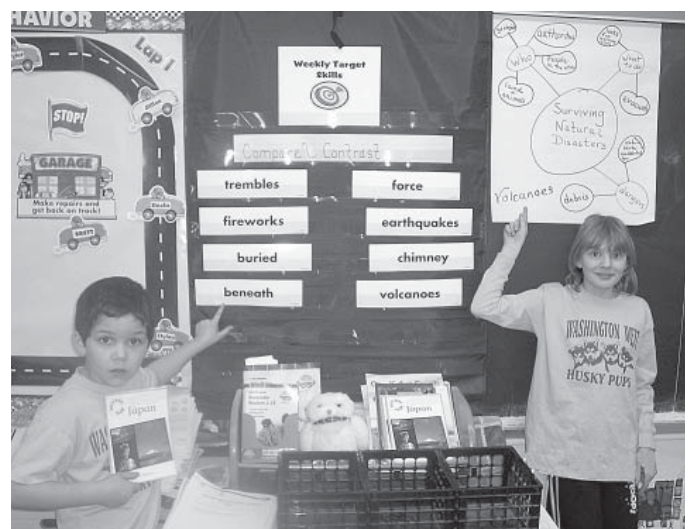
Washington West Elementary School



Integration at its Best: Mrs. Frederick's third-graders brought math, science, social studies, and reading knowledge together for a variety of "Cool Activities!" Our Reading First story for the week was an informational article on volcanoes. Students read narrative and expository books about volcanoes. For science, they created a volcano and demonstrated how it erupts; for social studies, they researched volcanoes around the world. For math, these young learners drew bar graphs for comparing the different elevations of Japanese volcanoes.

In the photo at right, Jarod and Kylie point out the "Concept Web" on "Natural Disasters" and the "Concept Vocabulary Words for the Week."

A Reading First target skill is "Comparing and Contrasting." In the photo at left, Tori and Trenten compared volcanoes, Mt. Vesuvius in Italy and Mt. Unzen in Japan. How cool, studying Japan!



OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Olean, NY 14760
www.oleanschools.org

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Martin Luther King project goes online

Recently Mrs. Monroe's class at Washington West Elementary read a story about Martin Luther King to her fifth-grade students. After reading the story, the students viewed a United Streaming video about Dr. Martin Luther King. Each student chose a biography on an African American, read the book, and wrote an essay on what he/she learned. Students used their word processing skills to type their final copies and search the web for pictures to enhance their projects. Mrs. Monroe was pleased that her students took the project to the next level and broadened their audience by podcasting the main topics of their projects, which will be posted on Mrs. Monroe's 5th grade website.



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