



LEAN

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Home, School and Community Educating for Life"

October-November 2016

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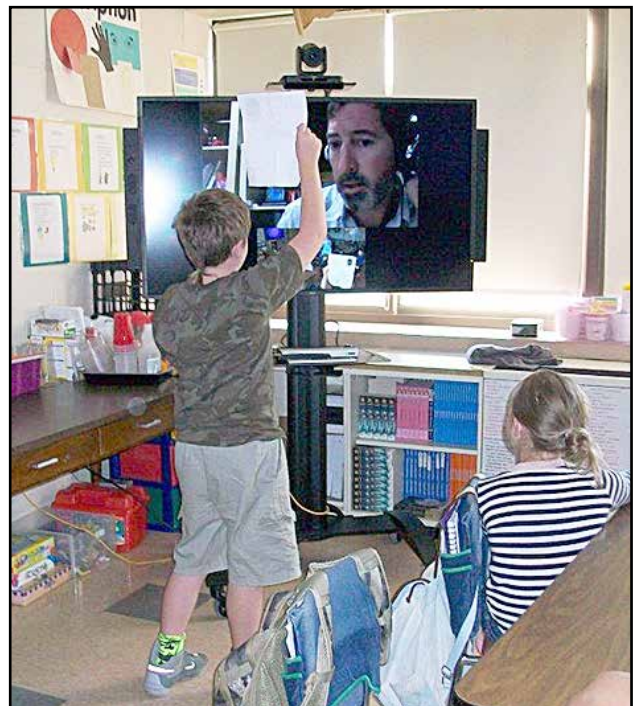
Life Lessons in Art Puzzle Project Recognizes Uniqueness

"There are no extra pieces of the universe. Everyone is here because he or she has a place to fill, and every piece must fit itself into the big jigsaw puzzle of life." - Deepak Chopra



Understanding the premise that we are all unique and equally important, artist Tim Kelly created the Puzzle Project.

Fifth graders Caroline Carter, David Ruszkowski, Amelia Robbins, Noah Ingalls, Jassica Backus, Xavier Cook, Elise Trudeau, Shamus Baer, Sophie Bartman, Makayla Magro, Nick Jones, Tyler Camp, Kristina Patterson, Mia Kellogg and Josh Tobola met after school on Thursday, October 6th, to talk with artist Tim Kelly in person (via teleconference). Tim inspired students to create something personally meaningful. After listening to the students share their plans, Tim said, "You all are inspiring me to create some more art!" Students are designing artwork on giant foam puzzle pieces. Once individual pieces are completed, students will present their puzzle piece to the club. Then all pieces will be put together to create one giant puzzle. The finished project will be displayed at OIMS in November. At the end of our meeting, Tim gave us a count down, "1,2,3 ..." and we all cheered, "ART IS GOOD!"





SueAnn Torrey Awarded Tenure

SueAnn Torrey (right), LOTE teacher, is presented a tenure certificate by Michiko McElfresh, Board of Education President.

Thank You Board of Education Members!

Governor Cuomo declared October 24-28, 2016, as School Board Recognition Week. Each year, School Board Recognition Week is observed by more than 700 school boards in districts throughout New York State.

This week is designated to recognize the men and women serving as members of school boards that continually strive for improvement, excellence and progress in education.

Please join us in acknowledging the outstanding commitment, contributions, and many hours of devoted service to public education.

From the Superintendent

Ways to Learn May Change, but Value of Education Remains

By Dr. Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent

In a time of unprecedented use of social media and the internet, how one learns or gains information has changed. What has not changed is the value of an education. Education cannot be underestimated. Many people have said; "knowledge is power." I believe knowledge, coupled with innovation and family support, allows our learners to flourish.

Let's work together to promote success by allowing all children to:

- **Be curious:** All children should be encouraged to be curious. Cultivating curiosity through exploration and play promote critical thinking and problem solving. Both of which are critical skills.
- **Be innovators:** Imagination and creativity have a huge role in learning and achieving. Children of all ages need to be encouraged to use their innovative and creative skills.
- **Build relationships:** Having a positive relationship with peers, staff, and family will foster a love of learning and promote success.
- **Believe in self:** When one has the belief that they can perform a certain task, they usually succeed. Whether in academics, the arts, or in the athletic arena children will perform better when they believe they can accomplish the goal and when others believe in them.
- **Experience family engagement:** Success for the learner is enhanced when the school and the family work together to ensure quality learning experiences. Critical factors that influence academic achievement include good attendance, study habits, involvement in extra-curricular activities, and valuing education. I encourage family members to be an active participant in your child's school experience.
- **Learn to love learning:** The key to success is developing a love of learning and an understanding that knowledge is the foundation of possibilities.

There is no doubt when families and school work together success for all learners is inevitable.

Substitutes Needed for All Areas ... Apply Today!

Are you interested in being a substitute for the 2016-2017 School Year? The District is in need of substitutes in all areas.

- Long-Term Sub Teacher: \$120/day
- Certified Sub Teacher: \$105/day
- Sub Teacher w/Bachelors: \$91/day
- Non-Certified Sub Teacher: \$85/day
- Sub Nurse: \$15/hour
- Sub Teacher Aide/Cleaner/Food Service: \$9.70/hour

Applications for all substitute positions are available in the Human Resource Dept., 410 West Sullivan Street, Olean and on the District's website, www.oleanschools.org.

If you have questions, please contact the Human Resource Department at 716-375-8032.



Welcome to Our District Team!



Cassandra Bold

Andrea Darrow

Erin Lord

Tyler Mack



Rhonda Morse

Linda Butler

Garrett Cross

**Katherine
DeArmitt-Armijo**



Jennifer Geise

Cheryl Green-O'Dell

Lisa Hopkins

Mary Ann Kahm



Bryan Kenyon

Peter Kline

Meagan Lawton

Janice Lijewski



Heather Matya

Tina Peterson-Volz

Ashley Tilly

Teachers:

Cassandra Bold was recently hired as a Math and Special Education teacher at the High School. Cassandra received a Bachelor of Science from SUNY Brockport in May 2012 and a Master of Science from St. Bonaventure in May 2013. Ms. Bold was previously a long-term substitute teacher at Cuba-Rushford Central School.

Andrea Darrow joins the District as a long-term substitute Elementary Teacher at Washington West Elementary School. Andrea received a Bachelor of Science from SUNY Fredonia in December of 2010 and a Master of Science from Walden University in June 2015. Ms. Darrow was a Special Education teacher with BOCES from August 2011 through September 2016.

Erin Lord was recently appointed as the LOTE teacher at the High School. Erin received a Bachelor of Science from Arizona State University in 2002 and a Master of Education from SUNY Buffalo in 2005. Ms. Lord taught at Belfast Central School from 2002 to 2016.

Tyler Mack was recently hired as the Science teacher at the High School. Tyler received a Master of Science from SUNY Buffalo in May 2015 and a Bachelor's Degree from SUNY Syracuse in May 2013. Mr. Mack was a substitute teacher at the Buffalo Academy of Science Charter School and Star Point Central School.

Rhonda Morse is a long-term substitute Physical Education teacher. Rhonda received a Bachelor of Science in May of 2009 from Ithaca College and Master of Science from SUNY Brockport in August 2010. Ms. Morse taught Adapted Physical Education at Lakewood Schools in Lakewood, OH and Stafford County Schools in Stafford, VA.

Support Staff:

Linda Butler – Teacher Aide

Garrett Cross – Teacher Aide

Katherine DeArmitt-Armijo –
Teacher Aide

Jennifer Geise – Teacher Aide

Cheryl Green-O'Dell – Teacher Aide

Lisa Hopkins – Food Service Helper

Mary Ann Kahm – Teacher Aide

Bryan Kenyon – Cleaner

Peter Kline - Cleaner

Meagan Lawton – Teacher Aide

Janice Lijewski – Cleaner

Heather Matya – Teacher Aide

Tina Peterson-Volz – Teacher Aide

Ashley Tilly – Teacher Aide

Local Families Hosting Students from Spain

Students from The English Corner, an English language immersion school in the city of Hondarribia, Spain, accompanied area students back to Olean (after their two week immersion program in the Basque region of Europe) to embark on a four week English immersion experience with local families. When host teacher Txaro was asked why she chose this area for her Spanish students, her response was, "This area represents my idea of typical USA, or at least the USA that I want my students to get to know."

Families took their exchange students to many of our community events such as Art in the Park, Oilers baseball games, Good Times (knockerball), go-kart racing, kayaking, the drive-in, horseback riding, boating, Allegheny River Valley Trail, Cattaraugus County Fair, Niagara Falls, Darien Lake and finally New York City. Our international students quickly became a part of their new American families.

Olean students hosting our Spanish friends were Filip Morowski, Aaron Hill and Mallory Bliss. Other area families



hosting students were Dan and Renee DeRose, Amy Leskow, Charlie Warren, Melissa and Steve Curran, Eileen and Matt Finn, Amy and Mike Higgins, Melanie and Chris Napoleon, Jay and Sandy King and Rick and Lynn Mott. A huge thank you to

those families for opening up their hearts and homes to our Spanish friends.

Families interested in hosting a Spanish student for next summer 2017 should contact Mrs. Napoleon at mnapoleon@olean.wnyric.org.



All French classes in the district were visited this September by Haitian visitors who were being hosted through the Bona Responds. The program is to support education, business training, computer skills and cultural exchange in Haiti. The participants shared power points and stories about the programs that are developing and in place to help out their schools, orphanages and deforestation. Some of these programs are giving students an education on gardening, how to properly use the environment, soccer programs and access to small business loans. The French students were able to interact with our guests (in French and in English) to become better informed of the French/Creole speaking country. Students were shocked to learn that an entire elementary school in Haiti could fit into half of our OHS cafeteria. It was a good opportunity for students to gain appreciation and perspective on the things we have.

Opportunity to Immerse in French Culture

Olean student Mallory Bliss had the opportunity to participate in a French immersion program this past summer in the Basque region of Europe in Hendaye, France. Other area students from Allegany-Limestone and Ellicottville also took part in this same program studying Spanish in the nearby city of Hondarribia, Spain. Students were housed by local French and Spanish families to participate in an immersion language program. Immersion means completely involved 100% in a new and different culture.

"Such an experience is absolutely life-changing. When a language student can actually live, breath and be part of the culture that he/she is studying, it becomes part of them forever," said Olean LOTE teacher Melanie Napoleon. Students attended morning classes where they were able to learn practical language skills that they applied in their daily interactions. In the afternoons students were involved in area sports, beach and recreation programs as well as family outings. They participated in local events, ate the local food and made lasting friendships with local teenagers.

"I now have a second family. It helped me to improve my French and gain a deeper self-confidence," said Mallory Bliss. Area students interested in participating in next summer's immersion program 2017 in French or Spanish should contact Mrs. Napoleon this fall at mnapoleon@olean.wnyric.org



Mallory Bliss (pictured back right) was among a group of area students who participated in an immersion program in France this summer.

OHS Court Reigns over Homecoming Festivities



The Olean High School Homecoming dance was held on October 1, 2016. The theme of the night was "Party at the Capitol" modeled after the Capitol in the famous trilogy, "The Hunger Games."

Pictured (back, l-r) are: Max Linderman, Josh Miles, Tristen Snyder, Dell Butler, Jake Bartlett, Trent Retchless

Pictured (front, l-r): Jillian Stephens, Zoya Rafi, Chantel Singleton, Emily Gayton, Serena Sosa and Kayla O'Connor.

Congratulations!

LEARNING ABOUT IROQUOIS CULTURE

Fourth Grade students from Mr. Charles' class are pictured at right holding their "False Face" masks they created in Mrs. Nickel's Art class. The Art project is based upon the Iroquois Culture the students are studying in their fourth grade classroom.



WASHINGTON CLUB PLANS TRIP IN MAY

Washington Club is planning a trip for 7th grade students again this school year! Our trip is planned for May 21st - May 23rd, 2017. Although they travel in their 7th grade year, students may sign up in 5th grade to begin fundraising to help cover the cost of their adventure.

Please contact club advisors Leah Allen or Jeanne Frisina in the OIMS Guidance Office (375-8064) if your OIMS student is interested in joining us!

Pictured at right are seventh grade students who toured Washington, DC in April.





SPECIAL OLYMPICS AND SBU HOST SOCCER CLINIC

On September 22nd, students from OIMS and OHS's Life Skills classes took part in a Soccer Clinic hosted by New York State Special Olympics and St. Bonaventure's Women's Soccer Team. Dr. Paula Scraba and Steve Brdarski organized the event. Students participated in soccer drills and mini games and were treated to an inspirational speech by New York State Special Olympic CEO Neal Johnson. The partnership between St. Bonaventure, New York, Special Olympics and Olean Schools continues to enrich the lives of students with and without disabilities.



PEP Grant in Action at Olean City Schools

Here is what is happening around the Olean City School District with funding from the PEP (Physical Education Program) Grant:

~~ Morning activity programs have started at Washington West, East View and OIMS all sponsored by the PEP grant. In addition, Open Weight Room is held every day after school at OHS. Come check things out.

~~ Cooking classes have started at OIMS this year and are held on Wednesdays with Ms. Whiteman.

~~ Monthly Adventure Activities have started at OHS. In September a group of students kayaked down the Allegany River from Portville to Olean.

~~ In October, the Adventure Activity was held at Portville Central School and students participated in the outdoor high ropes course.

~~ November's Adventure Activity will be the indoor ropes course at Portville. Check out the details for other month's activities on the gym bulletin board.

~~ New spin bikes have arrived. During the month of October, spin classes were offered on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at OIMS for interested 6th and 7th graders. Physical Education classes at OIMS and OHS will also have the opportunity to use the bikes.

~~ New scooters and helmets have arrived for students at East View. New snow shoes are also available for students in grades K – 12 to enjoy once winter arrives!





OHS Recognized for Support of National Manufacturing Day

Accepting a Mayoral Proclamation from Evelyn Sabina, Dream It-Do it Program Coordinator, are Mr. Michael Martel (left), Assistant Principal at Olean High School, and Mr. Jeffrey Andreano (right), Principal. Olean High School was recognized by Olean Mayor William Aiello for its enthusiastic involvement and participation in National Manufacturing Day. On Oct. 7th, approximately 150 ninth graders visited Dresser-Rand and the Cattaraugus County Campus of Jamestown Community College to learn about possible manufacturing and business education opportunities and careers in the Olean area.

Washington West Takes Part in Global Collaboration Day

Washington West Elementary School participated in the Annual Global Collaboration Day. Global Collaboration Day is a 24-hour online event that took place on September 15, 2016, wherever you were located in the world. Students, teachers, and organizations were encouraged to host a virtual activity that would connect people on this day. The purpose of this day is to connect schools and ensure that students are globally ready for 21st-century life.

This year, Mrs. Frederick's and Mrs. Faulkner's third grade classes with the assistance of Mr. Lasky, the district's technology integration specialist, participated in The Amazing Race Global Project. Hosted by Windsor Essex Catholic District in Windsor, ON, Canada, The Amazing Race Global Project allowed students to virtually visit locations throughout the world. Individual teachers and classrooms created pit stops that described their community and country. They even made videos so that the students could see their cities and foods.

Once they completed a pit stop they obtained a stamp in their virtual passport. Students traveled to over 20 countries throughout the world on all continents except Antarctica.

LONDON/PARIS/ Beaches of Normandy
And the French Castles spring 2018

Give yourself the gift of travel!
 It will change your life!
 Reserve your spot today

with Mrs. Napoleon (mnapoleon@olean.wnyric.org)





Cozy Reading Center: Mrs. Stephen's class loves to read and finding new and exciting place to read!



Reading and Thinking Aloud: Mrs. Sorokes is doing a read aloud with her first grade students. What makes this special is the questions that Mrs. Sorokes asks her class to challenge their thinking and teach them about the world. She asks things like, "Look at this person and how they are dressed, how is that different than how you dress? Why do you think they dress like that?" What exceptional teachers like Mrs. Sorokes know intuitively is that you can not be a great teacher of literacy without being a great teacher of humanity.



Animals Up Close and Personal: Mr. Gaffey, one of our SBU Teaching Interns showed he was braver than most at our most recent Animal Guy Event!

East View Elementary School



Visitor from Haiti: Principal Wesley Jean Louis from Haiti spent part of a morning with Mrs. Schreiber's class learning about our American education system. This was part of the Bonas and Beyond program.



Congratulations Miss Martin! Miss Martin is getting married and her third grade class threw her a little surprise party. They made her a gift where each student offered some marriage advice- it was very insightful! Also, a third grade wedding party wouldn't be complete without a group hug!



100 Men Supporting our Students: Washington West, in a collaborative effort with Cattaraugus County Community Action, sponsored the annual Dad's Take Your Kids To School Day. This national initiative recognizes fathers and father figures and the role they plan in the overall education of their children. Thank you to those who were able to join us on that foggy morning!



Halloween Activities at Washington West: Washington West will hold a Halloween Parade and classroom activities on Friday, October 28th. We ask for your support in keeping the costumes fun and friendly. On Halloween day, Monday, October 31st, we will maintain our regular scheduled classes. Please [contact our office](#)



We may all be different fish, but in this school we swim together! The start of the 2016-2017 school year was fun-filled and exciting for families and staff members alike. With an under the sea theme, teachers decorated classrooms, hallways, and even turned our cafeteria into a beautiful ocean wonderland! Each grade level team chose an undersea animal as part of the theme, and decorated their classrooms accordingly. Banners and book marks were created with each grade level's animal incorporated into the design. Kudos to the staff of Washington West for the extra attention, planning, and enthusiasm for an incredible back to school welcome!

Washington West Elementary School



3rd Grade Students Receive 1:1 Devices: In the ever changing world of technology, Washington West third grade students are fortunate to now have increased access at their fingertips! Full classroom sets of laptops are stored in computer carts, giving easy access to the internet as teachers continue to infuse technology into their daily instruction. Thank you the OCSd technology department for their efforts in securing the funding for these 1:1 devices for our students.

OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

410 W. Sullivan St.
Olean, NY 14760
www.oleanschools.org

ADMINISTRATION

Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools
Kathleen Elser, Business Administrator
Jeffrey Andreano, High School Principal
Mike Martel, Assistant High School Principal
Gerald Trietley, Olean Intermediate (Gr. 6-7) Middle School Principal
Joel Witcher, Olean Intermediate (Gr. 4-5) School Principal
Linda Nottingham, Washington West Elementary Principal
Brian Crawford, East View Elementary Principal
Marcella Richmond, Director of Special Education
Csobanka Woodworth, Technology Administrator
Jen Mahar, District Coordinator of State & Federal Aid Programs
Jen Kless, Coordinator of Curriculum and Instruction

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The Busy Lives of Kindergartners

Ever wonder what it would look like to walk into a Kindergarten classroom at 10:30? Mrs. Chudy and Mrs. Jodush at East View were both busy working with small groups of students, while a few others were getting independent practice using iPads.

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