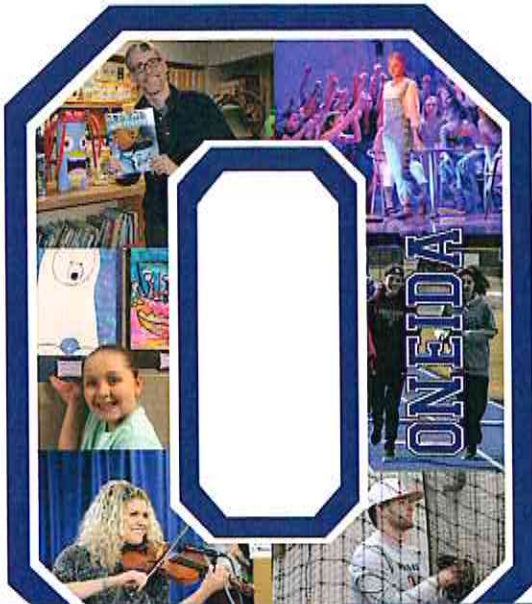


# Oneida City School District

Oneida High School   Otto Shortell Middle School   Durhamville   North Broad   Seneca Street   Willard Prior



## Class of 2019: Top Ten Graduates



*Ranked in Ascending Order*

- Julia Draves**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Draves
- Morgan Durr**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Durr
- Nicole Smith**, daughter of Mrs. and Mrs. Scott Smith
- Julianne Shive**, daughter of Ms. Kimberly Warner and Mr. and Mrs. John Shive
- Lauren Skibitski**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Skibitski
- Kaitlin Hubbell**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Hubbell
- Jessica Russ**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Todd Russ
- Benjamin O'Connell**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul O'Connell
- Kathryn Brown**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Brown
- Kayla Suppa**, daughter of Ms. Dawn Suppa and Mr. Gerald Suppa



Valedictorian  
**Julia Draves**



Salutatorian  
**Morgan Durr**



**Budget Breakdown**  
PG 2



**CNY Drone Challenge**  
PG 14



**Elementary Year in Review** PG 17

## **2019-2020 School Budget Update**

The Board of Education and Administration have finalized a sound and cost-effective budget for the 2019-2020 school year. This year we were faced with the challenge of decreased NYS aid, increased students' needs and an increase of costs such as salary and benefits. As we built the 2019-2020 budget we focused on all of the district goals:

### **Communication and Community**

Foster effective and efficient communication with parents, students, community members, faculty and staff.

### **Curriculum/Instruction**

Engage students in a high-quality comprehensive education that prepares them with a foundation of knowledge and skills for life, college, and career.

### **Financial/Facilities**

Provide fiscal oversight for the District by investing financial resources responsibly and effectively in support of the District's mission.

### **Board of Education**

Empower the District to fulfill its mission and realize its vision.

We believe that we have prepared a budget that maintains the high quality of education in the Oneida City School District that this community has come to expect. We have been able to implement savings and utilize reserves to offset increased costs.

<b>Total Budget</b>	\$46,983,114	.93% increase
<b>State Aid</b>	\$25,677,278	.79% increase
<b>Tax Levy</b>	\$17,894,710	2.49% increase

We are proposing a tax levy increase of 2.49% which is our calculated allowable tax levy limit. On average, what this 2.49% increase represents for property owners in the Oneida City School District is:

<b>On a \$100,000 Home</b>	<b>Per \$1,000 Assessed Value</b>	<b>Per Year</b>	<b>Per Month</b>
Before STAR Savings	\$0.597	\$59.70	\$4.98
With Basic STAR	\$0.417	\$41.79	\$3.48
With Enhanced STAR	\$0.198	\$19.82	\$1.65

Here are some important dates in relation to the budget.

- May 14: Public Hearing, 6pm, Costello Center
- May 21: Board of Education Meeting and a vote on the proposed budget 12-9pm at Durhamville Elementary School and the Oneida High School

The proposed budget includes the following additions and cost reductions:

New Budget Items	Proposed Reductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elementary Special Education staff member</li> <li>Middle School 1/2 time Special Education staff member</li> <li>English as a Second Language staff member</li> <li>Aides for elementary school libraries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two Elementary positions due to WP section reductions</li> <li>One Secondary English position</li> <li>Two library media specialists</li> </ul>

There will be a narrated PowerPoint budget presentation on [oneidacsd.org](http://oneidacsd.org). This will allow staff and community to 'see' the presentation if they are unable to attend the public hearing.

**WHAT YOU WILL BE VOTING ON**

2019-2020 School Budget

**Proposition No. 1: Budget**

“Shall the Board of Education of the Oneida City School District, City of Oneida, County of Madison, New York, be hereby authorized to expend the sum set forth in its proposed budget for the 2019-2020 school year in the amount of \$46,983,114 and to levy the necessary tax therefore?”

YES NO

**Proposition No. 2: Buses**

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Chapter 472 of the Session Laws of 1998, the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Oneida, Madison County, New York, is hereby authorized to lease and expend therefore, including costs incidental thereto and the financing thereof, an amount not to exceed the estimated cost of \$109,000, and for a term not to exceed five (5) years, the following motor vehicles: five (5) seventy seat passenger school buses; AND, that such sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax collected in annual installments; and that in anticipation of such tax, obligations of the District shall be issued.

YES NO

**Board Seat Election**

Five year term 7/1/19- 6/30/2023

- One seat currently held by Alicia Lippert will be voted on at this year’s school district vote.
- The following community members have submitted a petition to appear on the ballot.
  - Ms. Heather Denby
  - Ms. Alicia Lippert

**Capital Outlay Projects**

State law provides that a district may receive building aid in the following school year for one project each year not to exceed \$100,000. These projects must be paid by budget appropriation (no borrowing) and require full voter authorization through passage of the annual budget. This year the Board of Education has decided to include a capital outlay project to compliment upgrades underway at the High School through the capital improvement project.

**Voter Registration: All Voters Must Be Registered**

You can register in person at the Oneida City School District Office located at 565 Sayles St. Oneida, NY 13421 between 8:00am – 4:00pm Monday – Friday before May 7, 2019 or call your County Board of Elections for information on registering or obtaining a registration form.

Madison County.....366-2231 Oneida County.....798-5765 Toll Free.....1-800-367-8683

**Polls Will Be Open From Noon – 9PM At 2 Locations:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. ONEIDA HIGH SCHOOL<br>Voters living SOUTH of the NYS Thruway | 2. DURHAMVILLE ELEMENTARY<br>Voters living NORTH of the NYS Thruway |
|---|---|

**School District Budget Notice**

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2018-19 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2019-20 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2018-2019 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	46,550,725	\$ 46,983,114	\$ 46,732,636
Increase/Decrease for the 2019-20 School Year		\$ 432,389	\$ 181,911
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		.93 %	.39 %
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.44%	
<b>A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount</b>			
	\$ 17,460,683	\$ 17,894,710	
<b>B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)</b>			
	\$ 17,460,683	\$ 17,894,710	\$ 434,027
<b>F. Total Permissible Exclusions</b>			
	\$ 535,577	\$ 620,122	
<b>G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions</b>			
	\$ 16,925,106	\$ 17,274,588	
<b>H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)</b>			
	\$ 16,925,106	\$ 17,274,588	
<b>I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **</b>			
	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>Administrative Component</b>			
	\$ 5,035,677	\$ 5,099,648	\$ 5,082,281
<b>Program Component</b>			
	\$ 34,576,313	\$ 35,510,053	\$ 35,376,942
<b>Capital Component</b>			
	\$ 6,938,735	\$ 6,373,413	\$ 6,273,413

\* - Included within budgeted appropriations is \$100,000 for the completion of a Capital Outlay Project with all funds to be spent in 2019-20

\*\* - If the Board of Education were to adopt a contingency budget an additional amount of \$ 250,478 would need to be cut from the proposed budget in order to comply with NYS Education law section 2023 and chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011, of which \$12,178 must come from the administrative component of the budget.

Description	Amount
Resolution authorizing the lease of five (5) seventy seat passenger seat school buses	\$ 109,000

\*\* List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: [emscmgts@nysed.gov](mailto:emscmgts@nysed.gov)

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2019-20 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>
\$ 680

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2018-19 by the qualified voters of the Oneida City school district, Madison County, New York, will be held at Durhamville Elementary and Oneida High schools in said district on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 between the hours of 12:00pm and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the Durhamville Elementary and Oneida High schools, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

-1. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

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# Budget FAQs

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## **How come the increase in the tax levy is not the same increase reflected on my school tax bill?**

The tax levy increase is calculated using the state mandated tax cap law formula and is the sum total of taxes to be spread among all property owners of the District. The tax increase reflected on a school tax bill is the result of dividing the tax levy among all property owners based on the assessed value of their property. The increase in tax on a property owners bill is affected by changes to the total assessed value of property within a municipality (additions of exempt properties such as Oneida Indian Nation property, churches, etc.), changes in assessment on their particular property (additions, improvements, etc.), and changes to the equalization rate for their municipality as determined by the State.

## **What are equalization rates and how do they affect my taxes?**

It is fairly common in school districts for taxes to be collected from more than one municipality. Our school district's boundaries encompass parts of Lenox, Lincoln, Vernon, Verona, Vienna and the entire City of Oneida. Each municipality may have assessments at varying rates of market value. The New York Office of Real Property Services is charged with the responsibility of determining an "equalization rate" for each municipality. This factor, applied to the municipalities' total assessment, creates an assessment value that equates to full market value. The equalized assessment values by municipality (not the actual assessed value of the municipality) are then used to apportion the amount of the tax levy or total amount of taxes to be collected by the school district. This process is intended to ensure that each municipality is assessed their fair share of school taxes based on the market value of the properties within the municipality.

## **Why is the 2% tax cap in NYS not really 2%?**

The tax cap law went into effect in NYS June 2011. The "2%" misnomer comes from a portion of the calculation that limits the tax levy growth factor to the lesser of inflation or 2%. Under the law Districts are allowed to increase the levy limit amount for certain exemptions: local share of capital expenditures, cost of court awards from personal liability cases and a portion of the District's pension costs if the increase more than 2 percentage points. Oneida's tax cap calculation allows a 2.49% increase in the levy this year.

## **What is a contingent budget and how does this affect the instructional program?**

When the voters of a district fail to approve a school budget, the District is required to operate under what is called a contingency budget. The tax levy resulting from a contingent budget can be no greater than the tax levy of the prior year (that is, no tax increase). Under a contingency budget, the District is restricted to what are defined as "ordinary contingent expenses". In other words expenditures necessary to operate the regular instructional program, preserve the health and safety of students, and protect the District's property. Districts have some latitude in determining what is an ordinary contingent expense. It is commonly believed that extracurricular activities including athletics may not be included in a contingency budget, but this is not the case. However, because activities like after school clubs and sports are not mandated under the law and fall outside the regular instructional program, school districts often find it necessary to reduce or eliminate such programs in order to meet the requirements of a contingency budget. Under a contingency budget, Oneida would need to cut an additional \$434,027 from the budget and / or increase the use of fund balance.

## Oneida City School District Foundation

Join us on Saturday, September 28, 2019 for a night filled with reunions, laughter and amazing success stories at the annual Wall of Distinction Dinner. The Wall of Distinction honors our very own Oneida High School graduates, retirees, and community members who have made a lasting and positive difference in their chosen careers, dedicated service to the district, and/or shown great support of the goals and initiatives set by the Oneida City School District.

Proceeds from the dinner help support classroom grants, student scholarships and wall of distinction.

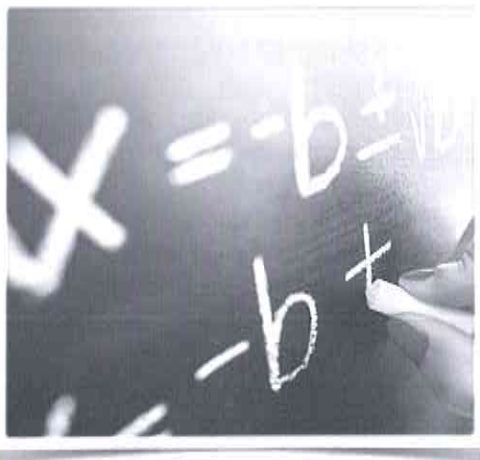


Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased by contacting Lori Cimpi at (315)361-6072 or emailing [lcimpi@oneidacsd.org](mailto:lcimpi@oneidacsd.org)

### Save the Date:

Wall of Distinction Annual Dinner  
Saturday, September 28, 2019  
Theodore's, Canastota  
Cocktails 6:00 PM / Dinner 7:00 PM

Consider purchasing a memento in the beautiful Memorial Brick Garden located in front of Oneida High School. Bricks can be ordered at any time and make a great gift! Take a walk along the path or sit in one of the memorial benches and find bricks given in honor of graduates, friends, favorite teachers, supportive coaches, family members or class. Options include a 4x8 or 8x8 brick. Forms for the brick garden can be found on the foundation website [www.ocsdfoundation.org](http://www.ocsdfoundation.org) or by contacting the the District Office at (315)363-2550, ext. 2010.



## Help Wanted!

The Oneida City School District is always looking for Substitutes for the following job titles: Teachers (must have two years of college), Nurses (must have LPN or RN license), Teacher Aides, Clerical, Food Service Workers, and Custodians. This is a great opportunity for retirees or someone who is looking for part-time work. For more information, call (315)363-2550 or pick up an application at 565 Sayles Street, Oneida.

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# A Message About School Safety

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Please know that the students' safety, well-being and security are our number one priority. We continue to work with our School Resource Officer, Matthew Ware, and our local law enforcement leaders to make every school as safe as possible. We strictly enforce the NYS SAFE act which prohibits guns on any school property unless you are a law enforcement officer. We also conduct multiple drills each year to ensure that both staff and students are best prepared for any situation should it ever arise. We continually refine our safety plans and protocols and look at ways we can improve our safety procedures. Additionally, we continue to work with local law enforcement officials to address any unsettling rumors and leads that may include social media posts or any other comments that may be perceived as threats.

Most recently our conversations have revolved around how our parents and community can assist in making our schools safer. As a community, we need everyone to work together to ensure our schools remain safe. This type of collaborative effort will help bring about the safest environment possible. Here are a few things that anyone in our community can do to assist us:

- o When you see something or hear about something, say something and contact law enforcement. We ask that you either contact law enforcement and/or school officials with any rumors or potential information instead of posting this information on social media.
- o Contact school administrators to ask questions about safety procedures if you have questions.
- o When you enter school buildings, do not hold the door open for the person behind you and encourage your students to never let an adult into the school from exterior doors; instead, students should seek a staff member to assist visitors.
- o Do not park in the emergency parking areas, such as the front circles at the High School and Middle School. These locations are set aside to allow our local law enforcement and/or firefighters to enter the buildings as quickly as possible if needed.
- o Stress that making a threat is not to be taken lightly and that there are serious consequences that can include criminal charges and disciplinary measures.
- o Monitor your child's social media accounts and phone/texting activity. Know what websites and social media sites your child is using. Look at what they are posting and who they are following.
- o Talk with your child about recent local and national incidents. Explain that feelings such as sadness, anger, disappointment, and fear can be normal responses to tragedies for children and adults.
- o Watch for changes in behavior and seek help if your child needs assistance dealing with anxiety or feeling safe.
- o Keep an open line of communication with your children and encourage them to tell you or another trusted adult if they become aware of a threat or rumor of violence.

We also have been asked how parents can support their children. On the next page you will find links to websites that may be helpful.

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# School Safety Continued

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Talking to Kids about School Safety

<http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/conditions/talking-kids-about-school-safety>

Talking to Children about Violence: tips for Parents and Teachers

<https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources/school-safety-and-crisis/talking-to-children-about-violence-tips-for-parents-and-teachers>

Report to Parents- Helping kids cope with Tragedy [https://www.naesp.org/sites/default/files/resources/2/Report\\_to\\_Parents/2005/rtp11-05.pdf](https://www.naesp.org/sites/default/files/resources/2/Report_to_Parents/2005/rtp11-05.pdf)

School counselors and administrators can be found at the following phone numbers if you need assistance with your child:

Oneida High School- 315-363-6901

Otto Shortell MS- 315-363-1050

Durhamville Elementary- 315-363-8065

North Broad Elementary-315-363-3650

Seneca Street Elementary-315-363-3930

Willard Prior Elementary-315-363-2190

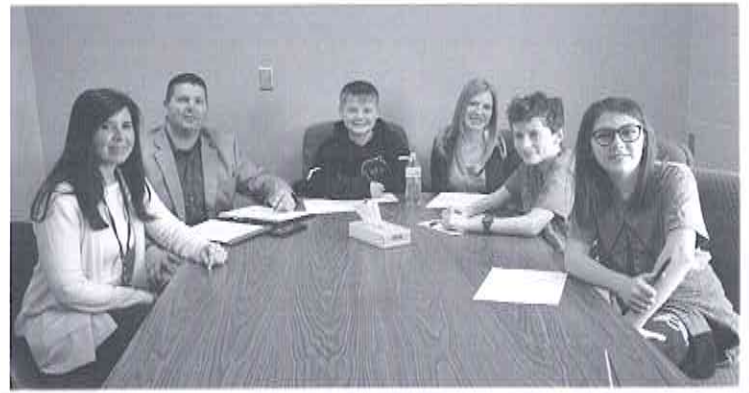
Working together at school and at home, we can make a difference for our children and our school community. As a school, we have no greater responsibility than to provide a safe environment where our children can learn and grow without excessive fear and anxiety.

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## Student Safety Committee

A Student Safety Committee has been formed at both the middle school and the high school. Members meet quarterly with SRO Matthew Ware and building administrators. The students come to the table with any issues they see happening inside the school and they also offer suggestions for changes that might improve student safety. For example, at Otto Shortell, the committee discussed locker room safety and vending machine safety. The students also talked about the benefits of

students learning CPR, as one of the members recently went through a babysitting course and had the training. The students were also informed on some updates coming to the security systems over the summer. The kids also talked about some platforms they are looking at to report bullying anonymously. Anyone wishing to learn more about the Student Safety Committee, please contact Matthew Ware at [mware@oneidacsd.org](mailto:mware@oneidacsd.org).





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# Shared Decision Making

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## District Level Shared Decision Making

**Members of the District Shared Decision Making Team:** Lori Cimpi, Craig Clarke, Eric Coriale, Carrie Earl, Allison Ferrucci, Stacey Jones, Joanne Makarchuk, Stephanie Neff, Katie Nestler, Phillip Ottaviano, Jennifer Raux, Laura Reff, Elizabeth Roberts, Andrew Sayles, Angie Sayles, Stacey Tice, & Mary-Margaret Zehr

At the March District Level Shared Decision Making meeting the team reviewed the Shared Decision Making (SDM) purpose and discussed the requirements from NYSED for SDM and highlighted some of the items from the plan.

The District Comprehensive Improvement Plan (DCIP) was described by district administration. Additionally, it was explained that North Broad will be creating a plan now and the District will be creating a plan later in the spring/summer. The team suggested keeping communication open throughout this process.

The team also heard updates from the Building Level SDM and learned about some parent and community engagement activities around the district.

Updates were given to the team on school safety. The MS and HS student safety teams have requested some changes in the safety drills. The team also discussed mental health procedures and the effectiveness of following procedures in each building. It was requested to have more education on how to help students/adults in need of mental health resources.

More information about the District Shared Decision Making Team can be found at: [https://oneidacsd.org/district/shared\\_decision\\_making](https://oneidacsd.org/district/shared_decision_making)

## District Facility Vision Team

**Members of the District Shared Decision Making Team:** Amy Bishop, Deb Cohen, Jennifer Cossette, John Costello, Michele Farwell, Megan Gillander, Marjorie Hawthorne, Lewis Kahler, Marty Kelly, Jim Maio, Jennifer Parker, Amy Roache-Fedchenko, Jennifer Roberts, & Angie Sayles

The team reviewed the Facility Study recommendation #2-*The district should convene a facility planning committee, comprised of both school staff and members of the community, whose role it will be to develop and monitor a long-term facilities plan for the district.* Additionally, the team discussed problems with the facilities (infrastructure), facilities in relation to the instructional program, and facilities in relation to equity in the elementary program. The team formalized their purpose: **To create a facility plan that allows for the design and development of flexible instructional learning environments that support student success now and after graduation.**

# Curriculum and Instruction

## New York State Grades Four and Eight Science Tests

All fourth and eighth grade students are required to take the New York State Grades 4 and 8 Science Tests. The performance component of this assessment will be administered between May 22 and May 31, 2019. Students will take the performance component of this assessment on one of the aforementioned days. All fourth and eighth grade students will take the written portion of the science assessment on Monday, June 3, 2019.

The New York State Grades 4 and 8 Science Tests consist of written tests and performance tests. The written test consists of multiple-choice and open-ended questions. The performance test consists of hands-on tasks that are located at three stations. Past editions of the science assessment may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.nysedregents.org/elementary-intermediate.html>.

## District News



### Simply the Best!

NAMM Foundation (National Association of Music Merchants) named the Oneida City School District a 2019 Best Community for Music Education. Congratulations to staff, parents, students and community members for supporting music in Oneida! This is the fourth year in a row we've earned this prestigious award!

### Teacher Earns Recognition

Business teacher Laura Reff has been recognized as a National Board Certified Teacher. NBCT is considered the highest mark of achievement in the profession. Reff began teaching in Oneida in 1999. Congratulations!



### Music All-State Students!

3 Conference All-State Students in Mixed Chorus:  
Emily Marshall, Benjamin O'Connell and Victoria Sgarlata

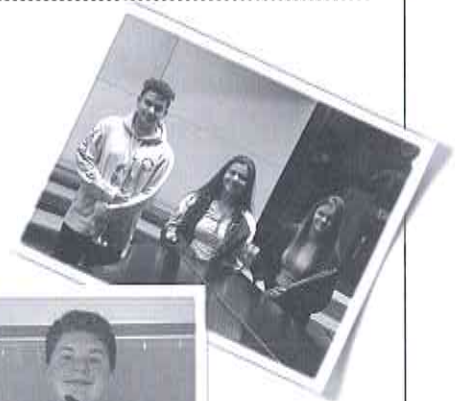
12 NYSSMA Sr. High Area All-State Students (grades 10-12) in Band and Chorus:

Concert Band: Nancy Chambers and Kayla Suppa

Mixed Choir: Abby Egger, Sara Paul, Emily Marshall, Josh Allen, Benjamin O'Connell and Andy Sayles

Treble Choir: Mary Brown, Emily Wright, Makenna Gleason and Victoria Sgarlata

2 NYSSMA Jr. High Area All-State Students (grades 7-9) in Concert Band:  
Julian Egelston and Collin Meyer



# District News

## Athletic Awards

The senior awards ceremony will be held on 6/17 at 6:30pm in the high school auditorium. This evening allows us to showcase the athletic and academic prowess of our senior athletes. Multi-sport athletes, athletes who will be graduating with a GPA over 85 and played two or more sports, students who promote sportsmanship, work ethic, good teammates, and the outstanding male and female athletes will be recognized with mementos and some scholarships. In addition, underclass scholar athletes will be recognized. Please join us for the celebration.

## World Tour Club



This January, a brand new “World Tour” club formed at Seneca Street Elementary School. Fourth and Fifth graders meet twice a month learning about different countries and their cultures.

The students decide what they would like to learn about from each country. Some of what they asked about so far is food, money, school life, shopping and the language.

The students start off with a snack and then a guest is introduced. The students view a powerpoint about the country and are shown a map to show where the country is in relationship with NYS. The students

have a passport and they fill in information about what they learned and they color in the flag of the country on the passport.

Fifteen students are in the group and so far they have traveled to Spain, Italy, China and Japan. Some of the guests include students from the Spanish Club, parents of Italian students and Chinese families. While our guests from Japan were in town, they stopped by the club. The kids were so excited and just wanted to talk to them. They enjoyed learning about each other.

“The idea isn’t to point out how we are all different. I wanted to point out what we all have in common,” said Joanne Makarchuk, English as a New Language Teacher, who started the club.

They would like to tour more countries and include the other 3 elementary schools in the future. “I want the kids to feel comfortable in school. The more opportunities we have to bring kids into school and do something fun the easier learning will be,” said Makarchuk.



# Oneida High School News

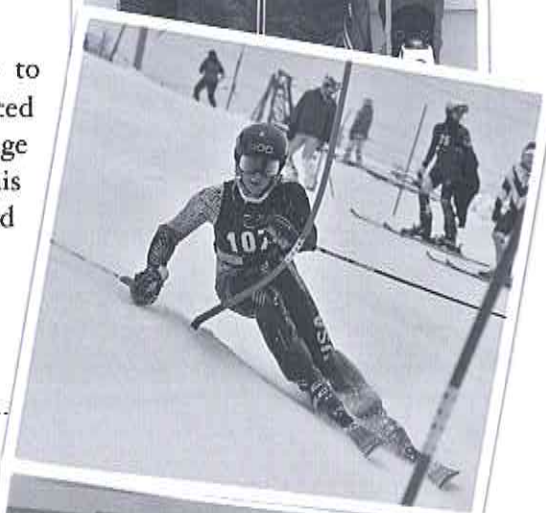
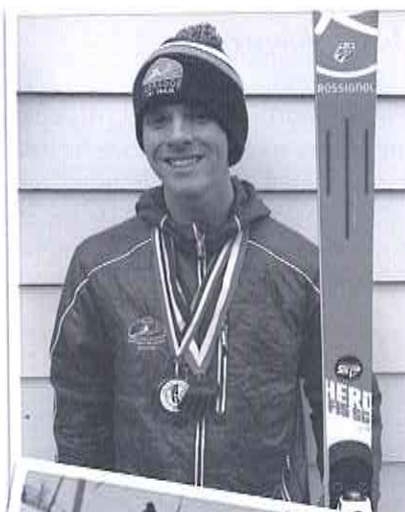
## OHS Junior Excels on the Slopes

In 2018-2019, Alex Tooker raced as a first year U19, U21 athlete competing in the Empire Cup Series. Alex, 16, is a member of the Labrador Mt. Ski Team. He trains 3 days a week and races nearly every weekend throughout New York State. Alex races 3 ski disciplines which include Slalom, Giant Slalom and Super G.

With great success throughout the Empire Cup Series, Alex qualified to compete at the Empire State Winter games at Whiteface Mt. where his best finish was a Slalom 5th in the first run. Competitors for this race are up to age 21. Alex also competed in the WSSA U19 Eastern Region Finals amongst athletes from several states!

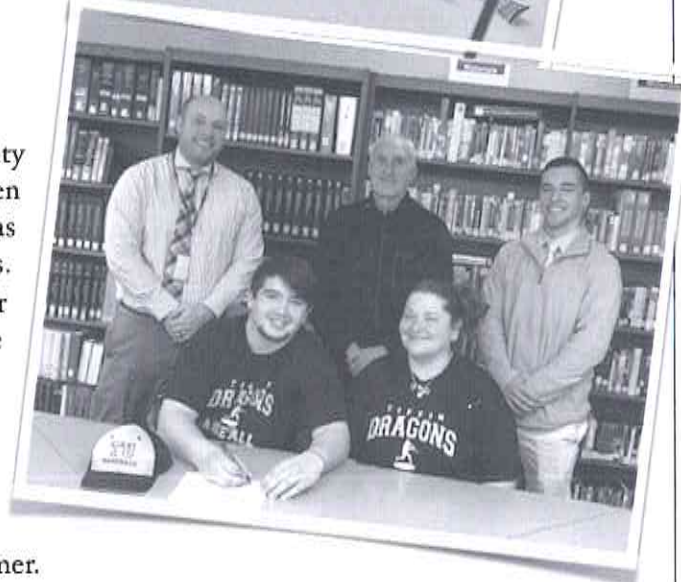
Alex hopes that his success will encourage other athlete skiers to compete at either the high school level or through a club associated with NYSSRA & USSA. It is a lifelong sport that starts as early as age 8 and can continue through college and beyond. Alex attributes his success to his coaches & training, good diet, properly tuned equipment, year round conditioning and plenty of rest.

Read more about Alex and his accomplishments on [oneidacsd.org](http://oneidacsd.org).



## OHS Baseball Star Signs to Tiffin University

In April, Senior Jordan Barlow committed to Tiffin University to play Division 2 baseball. Coach Ryan Kramer says Jordan has been a 4-year starter. Going into his senior year, he has over 70 hits, 20 extra-base hits, 40 runs and 40 RBI's. "Jordan has been an anchor to our baseball roster for four years. His hard work, attention to detail, and love for the game of baseball is infectious. I've been proud of his accomplishments, but most importantly, of the man Jordan is becoming. Any young athlete in Oneida should see that no matter the circumstance or where you come from, if you work hard at something, you can get to where you want to be. Jordan Barlow is proof of that," said Coach Kramer.



# ONEIDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT and MADISON-ONEIDA BOCES



*Partners in Education*



## *A Word About* **BOCES . . .**

We invite you to take just a few moments to learn more about our school district's decision to participate in BOCES programs and services. Madison-Oneida BOCES provides a spectrum of services far broader than most people realize. Here are just a few examples:

Madison-Oneida BOCES Services are planned, delivered and evaluated with districts, allowing for lower cost alternatives or higher yield, tailored results.



- **Career and Technical Education Programs** that feature integrated academic instruction combined with hands-on, industry-based technical training to prepare students to be successful in their chosen career area.
- **School-to-Work Programs** that help high school students explore career interests and learn employment skills, giving them a competitive edge, both in college and in the workforce.
- **Early Childhood Programs** that incorporate high-quality academic learning standards and encourage parental involvement to provide students with a successful start.
- **Special Education Programs** and services that help all children, regardless of their abilities, reach their full potential.
- **Re-training and Support Services** that help adults who have lost their jobs find new and satisfying careers.
- **Technology Services** that help districts focus on improving student results as they plan for their computer hardware and software needs.
- **Management Support Services.** Sharing resources and aggregating demand creates efficiencies through services such as Central Business Office, Printing, School Lunch, Bus Maintenance and Cooperative Bidding.

**Why do school districts participate in BOCES services?** One reason is that for many districts, it's an opportunity for students to take advantage of programs like Career and Technical, Special and Alternative Education, which address a variety of learning needs. In many ways, BOCES opens doors for students to a wider, more varied educational community.

Another reason is that school districts can usually save money by participating in shared services. It makes sense to eliminate duplication wherever possible, and BOCES helps school districts do just that.

## Zachary Coleman – A BOCES Success Story!

Oneida senior Zachary Coleman grew up watching his dad, a carpenter, build all sorts of things at home – including the family's garage. He knew from a young age that he wanted to work in the construction field. As a junior, he enrolled in the same Carpentry program at MOBOCES that his father attended when he was at Oneida High School.

"I was around wood work and building from a young age," he said. "This is what I want to do."

Carpentry is a two-year program that prepares students for careers in building construction. Students learn how to plan, design, estimate and build residential structures. They learn the fundamental principles and theoretical concepts of layout and design, rough framing, dry wall installation, basic electricity, masonry, plumbing, roofing and more.

He has recently been able to turn his classroom skills into part-time work helping a local residential contractor build decks.

"I really enjoy seeing something that I built in a spot where there wasn't anything before," he said.

He has also helped build sets for the Oneida High School musicals during the last three years, an experience he said is very different from residential construction work but no less valuable and no less fun.

Zachary is a member of the National Technical Honor Society at MOBOCES and participates in SkillsUSA, an industry-focused competition that tests students' skills and knowledge in different career fields. He plans to attend SUNY Morrisville to study residential construction and hopes to eventually have his own business.

He is the son of Dustin and Nicole Coleman of Oneida.



### What is BOCES?

BOCES stands for Board of Cooperative Educational Services. BOCES is a public organization that was created by the New York State Legislature in 1948 to provide shared educational programs and services to school districts.

### How does BOCES work?

BOCES services are created when two or more school districts decide they have similar needs that can be met by a shared program. BOCES helps school districts save money by providing opportunities to pool resources and share costs.

### Why can't we just have the services here in our own district?

Sharing is an economical way for districts to provide programs and services that they might not be able to afford otherwise. It is often more efficient and less costly to operate one central service than it is to have separate programs in each school district. BOCES services are often customized, offering districts the flexibility to meet their individual needs.

### Who makes the decision about which BOCES services to purchase?

Each year, local Boards of Education review their districts' needs and make decisions about BOCES services. Because districts' needs change every year, decisions about BOCES services may also change every year. The decision to participate in BOCES services is based on the unique needs of each district. If the district doesn't need a BOCES service, it doesn't request it and it doesn't pay for it.

### How are BOCES services paid for?

A BOCES has no taxing authority. Instead, funding comes from school districts, which annually decide which services they want to purchase. Additionally, funding may come from outside sources (e.g. state and federal) to cover special projects.

### How is BOCES governed?

BOCES is governed by a Board of Education. Board members are selected from the local school districts. Each school district Board of Education votes on the BOCES Board members. Board members are responsible for curricular, financial, and other policy decisions, just as they are at the local level.

### PARTNERSHIP

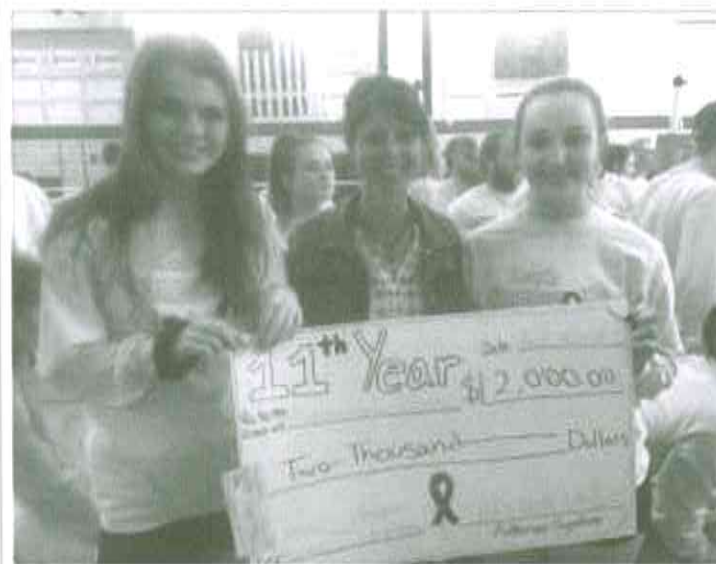
Madison-Oneida BOCES is committed to providing quality education programs and services that meet the diverse needs of students in our region. This work benefits learners of all ages and cannot be done without the commitment of our schools and communities. Thank you for your continued support!

- In 2018, 90% of students who completed our Career and Technical Education programs were successfully placed within 6 months of graduation. Of those students, 60% pursued Post-Secondary Education, 25% were employed, and 6% entered the military.
- Of our 2018 CTE completers, 71% of them earned a Technical Endorsement on their diplomas, which can be used as an industry-recognized work credential.
- We support more than 15 Professional Learning Communities in the region and offer educators and administrators professional development opportunities with national speakers and experts.
- Adult and Continuing Education helped 147 learners this school year prepare for and pass the TASC™ test to obtain their high school equivalency diploma.
- Alternative Education and Special Education faculty utilize intervention programs that are keeping more students in school and engaged in instruction.

# Oneida High School News Continued

## Leo's Club

The Leo's Club of Oneida High School hosted their 11th annual Leo's Volley Against Cancer on April 8th. The goal was to raise funds to bring a greater awareness to Colon Cancer and Hodgkin's Lymphoma. The event was a tremendous success. The Leo's raised over \$2,500.00 with the help of the OHS staff, students and local community members. The club would like to thank everyone who supported this worthy cause.



## Promoting Positivity

The students in Teens for a Better World recently tried to promote a positive school culture throughout the high school. They placed sticky notes on every locker after writing uplifting thoughts on each one. The goal of the students in this club is to bring positive vibes to the student body.

## Youth Summit

Oneida took part in a Youth Summit hosted by Hamilton Central School. In this collaborative project, students from nine Madison County schools created their ideal communities. Local elected officials were there to listen to the teen's proposals. Oneida was represented by Shelbie Jenkins, pictured here with her family and Congressman Anthony Brindisi.



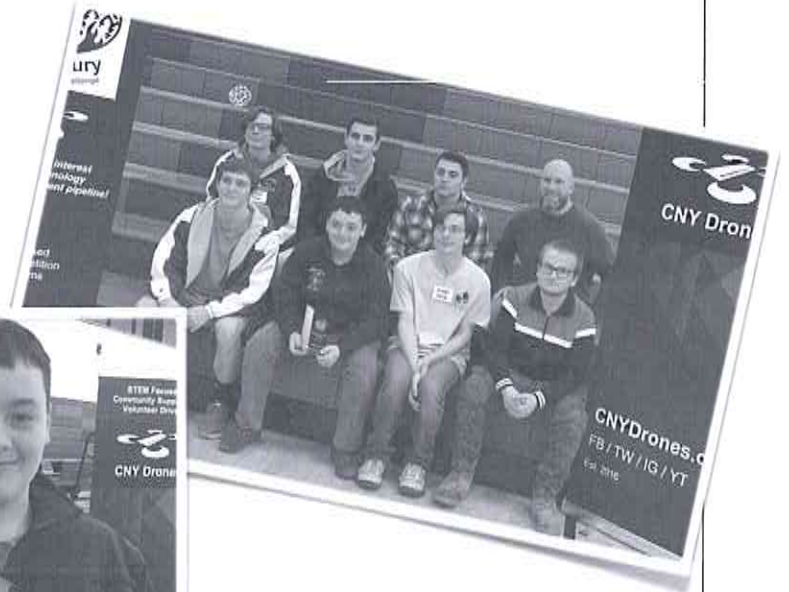
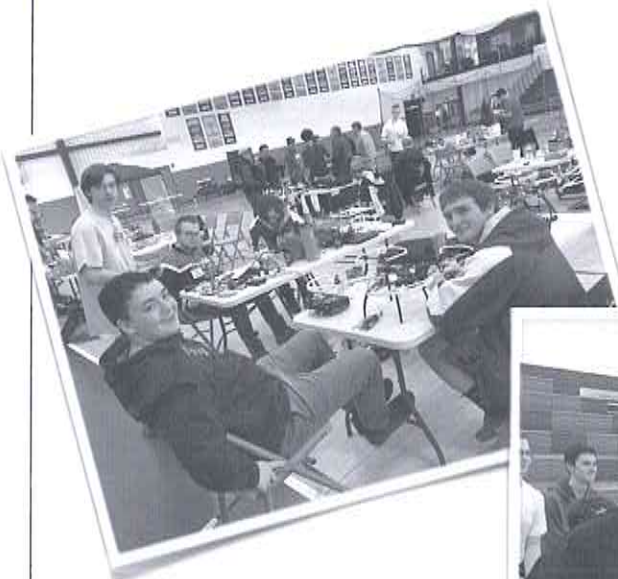
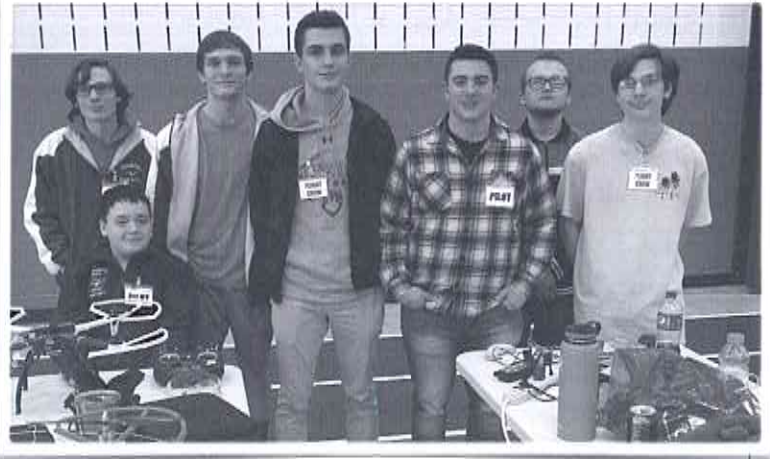
# Oneida High School News Cont.

## Oneida Competes in Drone Challenge

The Oneida UAV Drone class competed in CNY Drones annual Team Drone Challenge in April. This year's course required teams to score points flying forest firefighting missions. The challenges required them to fly through obstacles and maneuver to simulate rescuing people from an avalanche, delivering firefighters and supplies and land on moving platforms. It was an intense day with a lot of great flying and problem solving.

Pilot Dalton Carnahan, with copilot Zander Farr, made Oneida's best run of the day that took 2nd place in the event. We also had Pilot Elijah LaGoy, with Co-Pilot Riggley VanDyke, that did a great job making good flights while overcoming technical issues. Supporting the pilots and devising strategy, we had William Milbach, Josh Grinnell and Jordon Grinnell spotting and in the pits.

Proud of our 2nd place finish with this great team of students here at Oneida High!





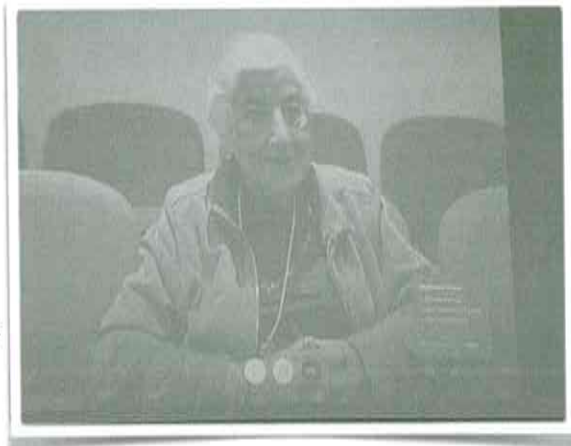
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# Otto Shortell Middle School News

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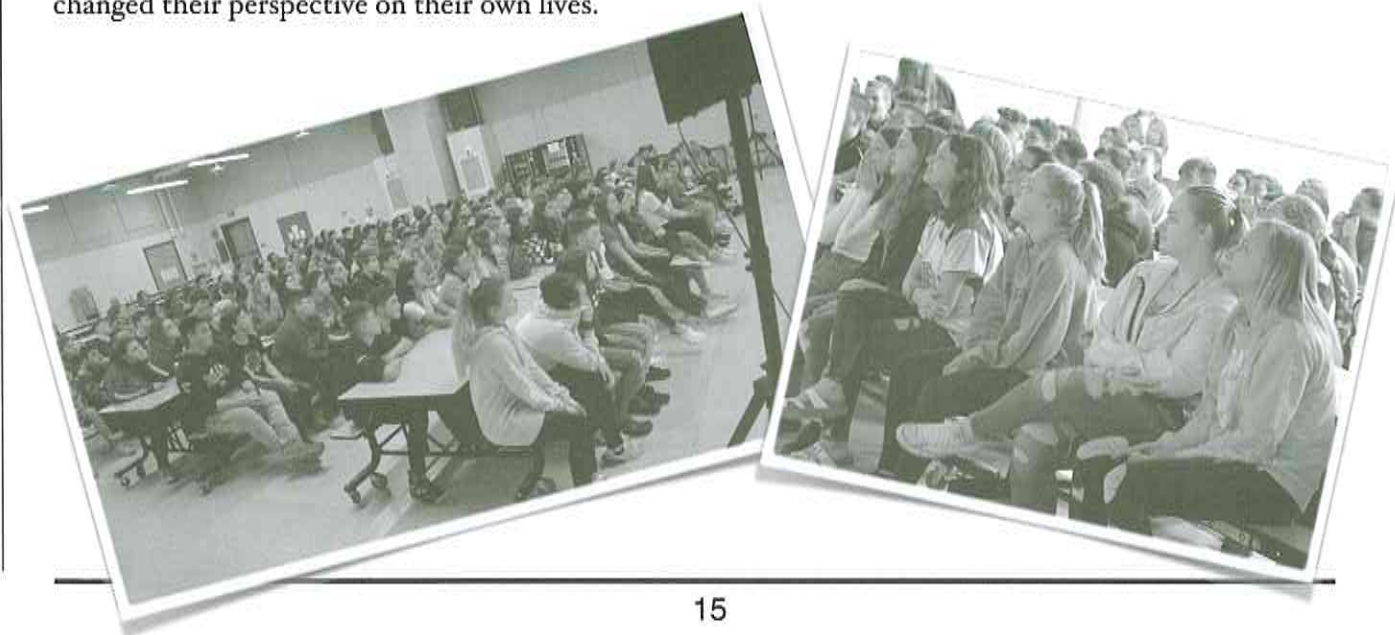
## A Survivor's Story

On Tuesday, April 9th OSMS had a live video conference with Holocaust survivor, Engelina Billauer. Mrs. Billauer told her story as young Jewish girl living in Berlin and how they were at first discriminated against, then outright persecuted because of their faith. She recalled the night called Kristallnacht, also called "The Night of Broken Glass." On those nights, the Nazis attacked both the Jews and their property. One night the Nazis came and forced her and her family from their home. The Nazis forced her family on a train to Estonia and ultimately Engelina Billauer's parents were split up from her and her sister; they found out later that her parents were killed in a mass execution. Luckily, she remained with her sister throughout her experience, and she and her sister formed a group of friends that helped to keep up their spirits and stay alive. Engelina Billauer said she would not have survived without her sister. Mrs. Billauer was in several concentration camps including Bergen-Belsen, from which she was liberated on April 15th, 1945.



Mrs. Billauer also told us about the aftermath of the Holocaust. She related how the discrimination of the Jewish people still occurred in Europe. She also told the story of how some family members immigrated to Israel, and how she and her husband, who she met after the war, ultimately decided to immigrate to the United States because her sister had come to the United States.

Our students were allowed to ask Mrs. Billauer many of their questions. The students are making a picture book about the Holocaust, and will dedicate it to Mrs. Billauer. They have also each written a letter of thanks to her. Many students have commented in their letters that Engelina Billauer's talk has changed their perspective on their own lives.



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# Otto Shortell Middle School News

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## Syracuse Stage

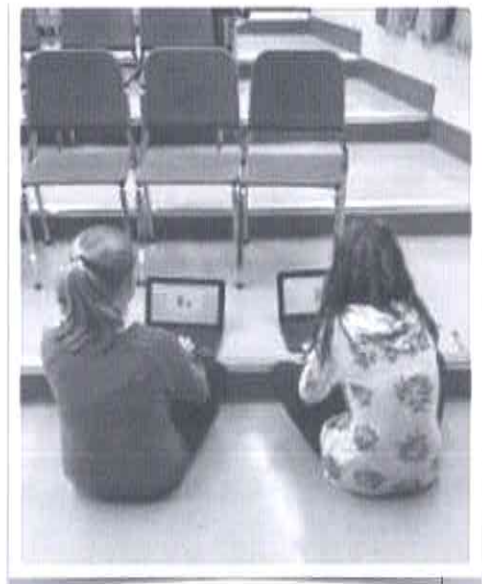
Mama says I can be anything I want to be. I can be anything I want to be." These words were among the opening lines of a one-woman show that was performed for 8th-grade students at OSMS. The show titled "Commanding Space-The Rise of Annie Easley and the Centaur Rocket" is part of the Backstory program through Syracuse Stage. The Backstory program brings history to life for students throughout Central New York. This year's performance focused on the life and story of Annie Easley, one of the first African American Women to work for NASA. Easley was a ground-breaking rocket scientist, mathematician, and computer engineer who worked on the Centaur rocket project and early versions of batteries for hybrid vehicles. This performance served as an introduction to the American Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 60s which 8th-grade students will be studying later this spring.

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## Using Technology in Music Class!



Students in Mrs. Phoenix-Heart's 7th Grade General Music Class utilize Chrome Books for learning with Chrome Music Lab. Here, they explore applications that explain and visualize sound. Students also use Virtual Reality Goggles to explore outside the classroom walls. Google Arts and Culture, combined with VR kits from Madison-Oneida BOCES allow students to explore places related to art, history, culture, history, and more!



# Elementary Year in Review

**#1: Emotion in Art:** Artist Tom Varano inspired us to Dream BIG and read lots of BOOKS, surround ourselves with positive INDIVIDUALS, and to reach for the sky by setting GOALS! Tom's artistic talents and generosity will inspire students for years. Check out the amazing mascot paintings he presented to our schools in each building.



**#2: Family Math and Literacy Night:** While parents learned about SuperKids and Journeys through a presentation by our Assistant Superintendent Tina Lane, students had the opportunity to learn math and ELA through mat movement activities.

**#3: Every Oneida Student Succeeds Night:** Families enjoyed a free dinner of pizza and salad, fun and exciting activities thanks to our local Oneida YMCA while parents participate in a presentation regarding Every Student Succeeds Act.



**#4: Moxie Strings:** The Mox Project, a non-profit organization that is designed to provide musical enrichment to students. This duo performed various pieces and styles of music for the students including Irish reels, classical and rock.



**#5: Matt McElligott Author Visit:** Students in all four elementary buildings were entertained by author and illustrator Mr. Matt McElligott. Mr. McElligott was able to captivate his audience and draw them into active and willing participants in his presentations!



**#6: Merry Go Round Playhouse:** With thanks to our generous PTOs in each building, our students enjoy the opportunity to participate in live performances and interactions with the actors. Our 3-5 students had classroom workshops to demonstrate possible careers in theater.

# Elementary Year in Review Cont.



**#7: Arts in our School:** Students showcased their artistic talents through musical performances and the Oneida City School District Art Show!

**#8: Jason Robinson Visits OCSD:** Jason is an inspiration to everyone that meets him. Students learned that if you can

dream it - you can do it no matter what the obstacle! Thank you Jason for your message of empowerment and courage!



**#9: Iroquois Cultural Presentation:** OCSD elementary students had the pleasure of learning about the Oneida language, explored artifacts, and gained an appreciation for traditions of Native American culture from Oneida retired teacher Mr. Randy Phillips.

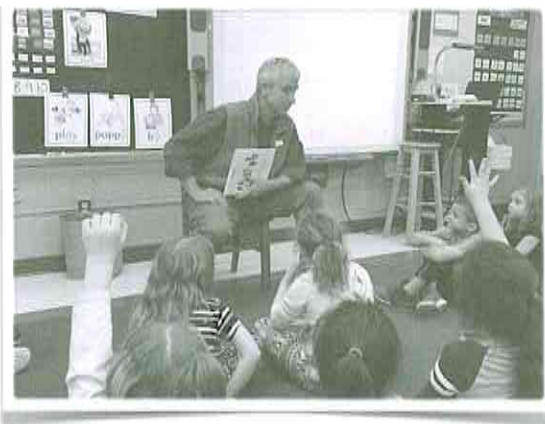


**#10: Geography Bee:** The annual 5th Grade DV/NB Geography Bee was a fantastic learning experience for everyone involved!

**#11: pARTners:** NB and WP artists connect with OHS National Art Honor Society students to establish mentorships and relationships as they create art that is personal and also civic-minded.



# Durhamville Year in Review

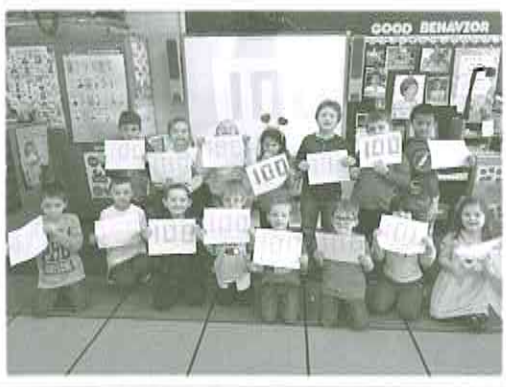


**NY Agricultural Literacy Week** - First and second graders students enjoy the 15th annual NY Agricultural Literacy Week March 18-22. Community members volunteer to read *On the Farm, At the Market* by G. Brian Karas.

**Durhamville PTO Family Fun Nights** are enjoyed by families during our Fall Festival and Binglow. Come one, come all and enjoy a family fun night for free!



**The 100th Day of School** - Kindergarten Students keep us on track and announce the 100th Day of School. Each classroom celebrates with an estimating jar.



**Stone Soup** - Kindergarten students read different versions of the story Stone Soup. Ingredients are cooked in a pot over the open flame in the fireplace of the Durhamville Bicentennial log cabin. Students enjoy tasting their home made stone soup.



**Problem solving tasks** promote collaboration and thinking skills. Fifth Graders start the year learning to work together to save Fred and second graders create hats with given materials to protect themselves from the sun.

# North Broad Year in Review



**Veteran's Day Assembly-** We were honored to welcome and give show our heartfelt appreciation to our local veterans during our annual Veterans Day assembly.

**Second Annual Thanksgiving Feast-** Thanks to the generosity of Napolean Cafe, countless Oneida businesses and community members, and NB PTO and staff, our students were treated to a Thanksgiving feast at the Kallet to share a special meal with their North Broad Family!



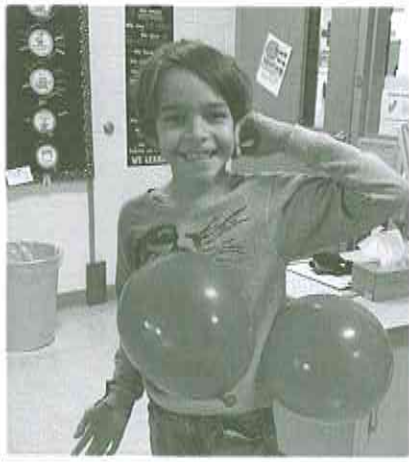
**Imaginarium-** The NB Imaginarium officially opened, giving students a new space to focus on critical thinking, innovation, and creativity through science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM)!

**SuperKids Day-** We love our SuperKids characters from our K-2 reading program!



**Cultural Festival-** Over the course of the festival, our students were able to learn about culture and diversity from around the world and try new foods together from the tasting menu.

# Seneca Street Year in Review



**Fun With Science!** Students across all grade levels are actively engaged with hands-on Science activities.  
#ScienceMakesUsSmile

**April is Read Across America Month!** We love reading ALL year but celebrated April with many of these different activities: Dr. Seuss's birthday, school-wide Drop Everything and Read, dress as your favorite storybook character and buddy reading.



**Seneca Street's Annual Learning Fair** Students are expected to create and present their topic of choice to visitors as they walk gallery style around the gym. This is Mrs. Pitoniak's 11th year successfully organizing and directing this project.

**Many fun-filled family events** sponsored and organized by our PTO. Decades of Dance, Glow Bingo, Fun Run, Boo Bingo and many more.



**100 is A LOT!** Celebrating 100 days of school and being 100 days older and wiser!

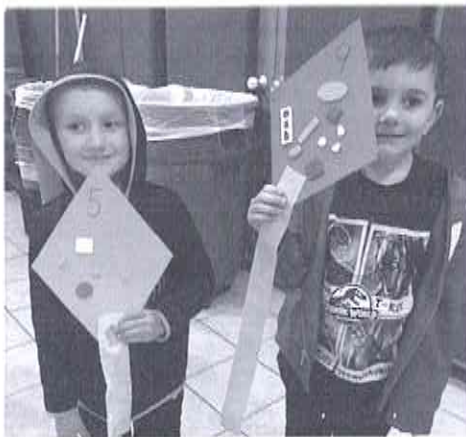
# Willard Prior Year in Review



**The Monster Mash** brought out the Superhero, the Super Scary, and the Super Sweet Piranhas in the Fall!

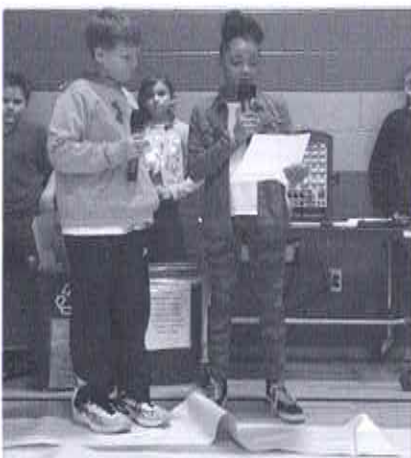
**Willard Prior "Gizmo Goonies"** was created this year and students got a taste of what being an engineer or designer

might be like. Grade 4 and Grade 5 students met after school on Wednesdays with Mrs. Finn. Thanks to a grant from the PTO for makerspace supplies, students explored and created a variety of designs and working models.



**Pre-K** students have learned so much this year! They are identifying letters, sounds, numbers, counting and proudly "showing off" their skills!

**Ruth Weydig**, local Golf Pro, sponsored an after school golf program for WP students on Friday evenings. These WP golfers represented our school in the Cup Challenge hosted at the Oneida Community Golf Club in April.



**WP News** returned this year to our Afternoon Program. Students in grade 5 collect information from each grade level and special area, write the story and report the news to the entire student body during Afternoon Program. Great Job, Piranhas!



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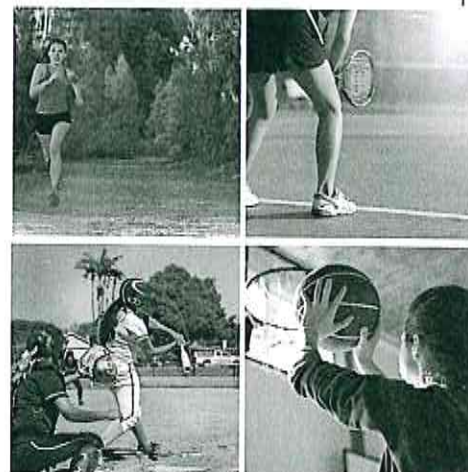
# New This Year!

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## Oneida Launches Girls Athletic Activewear Program (GAAP)

Oneida CSD female students sometimes do not have the proper clothing needed to participate in sports and physical education class. Everyone who has the right equipment and suitable attire understands what a huge difference it can make. We would like to create a space full of quality athletic footwear and clothing in a variety of sizes. Quality athletic wear means better focus and performance, eye on the ball, and minds on the game. We want to work in unison with our community to provide our female students with the proper athletic apparel, which so many of them need. Suggested athletic wear includes sneakers, cleats, sports bras, sweat shirts, sweat pants, socks, spandex, warm base layers, etc.

Please join with us in our efforts to help our female student athletes reach their fullest potential.



To donate quality athletic wear in all sizes please send them to OHS main office Attention: Dr. Tice or to the district office Attention: Mrs. Zehr. Any questions regarding the program please email [stice@ocsdny.org](mailto:stice@ocsdny.org)

## Snow Day Information with School Messenger

The Oneida City School District now includes students in our SchoolMessenger robo system! The district uses the SchoolMessenger calling system to keep parents, legal guardians and staff members informed on the following categories: emergency, weather, cafeteria, attendance and general notifications. The system works by delivering a pre-recorded telephone message, text message, push update, or email to contacts specified by parents, legal guardians, and staff members. With parental or legal guardian permission, the Oneida City School District will collect mobile phone numbers from students in grades 6-12 who would like to receive robocalls or text messages. Students will receive calls or text messages for the following categories: emergency, weather, and general notifications.

The form to sign up for School Messenger can be found on our website or by contacting Lori Cimpi in Student Registration at 315-361-6072.

For more information on how School Messenger and to download the form, please visit our website [www.oneidacsd.org](http://www.oneidacsd.org) > Stay Connected.

administration

**Oneida High School** 315-363-6901  
Brian Gallagher, Principal  
Jennifer DePerno, Assistant Principal  
Stacey Tice, Assistant Principal/ Athletic Dir.

**Otto Shortell Middle School** 315-363-1050  
Todd Widrick, Principal  
Amanda Larson, Assistant Principal

**Durhamville Elementary** 315-363-8065  
Margaret Visalli, Principal

**North Broad Elementary** 315-363-3650  
Eric Coriale, Principal

**Seneca Street Elementary** 315-363-3930  
Penny Houser, Principal

**Willard Prior Elementary** 315-363-2190  
Moira Yardley, Principal

**District Office** 315-363-2550  
Mary-Margaret Zehr, Superintendent  
Tina Lane, Asst Sup. for Instruction  
James Rowley, Asst Sup. for Finance  
Genevieve Brauner, Admin for Technology and  
Special Programs

**Student Registration** 315-361-6072  
Lori Cimpi

**Transportation** 315-363-5470  
Mike Klenotiz

**B** Mr. John Elberson, President  
Mr. Robert Group, Vice President  
**O** Ms. Melinda Bowe  
Ms. Alicia Lippert  
Ms. Jennifer Parker  
**E** Mr. James Maio  
Mr. Martin Kelly



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**#OneidaStrong**