



Orchard Park Central School District Community Report

December 2018 January 2019 Edition

Orchard Park High School Teacher Named Advisor of the Year

Orchard Park High School teacher and STAP Comm Advisor, Mrs. Stacy Rominger, received the 2018 Dr. Earl Reum Advisor of the Year Award at the New York State Council on Leadership and Student Activities (NYS CLSA) annual conference in November.

Madison Perry, a senior at Orchard Park High School and president of STAP Comm, nominated Mrs. Rominger to be the Advisor of the Year. Madison states, "She's been able to consistently and unyieldingly help her student leaders feel appreciated and

valued and, in doing such, motivate them to keep working to make a difference at this school. Within student leadership or otherwise, Orchard Park High wouldn't be the same without Mrs. Rominger, and I can't think of anyone more deserving of such an honor."

Madison and fellow STAP Comm members surprised Mrs. Rominger with the nomination and the award. They also arranged to secretly have Mrs. Rominger's husband and Orchard Park High School chemistry teacher Dr. Robert Rominger attend the awards ceremony unbeknownst to her.

Orchard Park High School has been a member of the NYS CLSA since 1991 – the

Mrs. Stacy Rominger received the Advisor of the Year award at the New York State Council on Leadership and Student Activities Conference in Niagara Falls this past November. She is pictured above with her award and the STAP Comm students who were in attendance.

same year that Mrs. Rominger became a science teacher at the Orchard Park High School. When she began in Orchard Park, she also became the STAP Comm advisor and has been in that role ever since. She says that her students' energy and passion is contagious and that she's continually learning from them. Orchard Park High School Principal Jonathan Wolf states, "I am very pleased that Mrs. Rominger has been selected for this recognition. She has been a tremendous advisor, leader and role model throughout her career at OPHS. The impact she has made on our students and school community is immeasurable. We are so fortunate to have her."

Being a part of the NYS CLSA organization allows students the opportunity to learn, share and network with their peers in a safe and supervised environment. Mrs. Rominger travels annually with STAP Comm members to the conference, which is held in various locations throughout the state. This year, it was in Niagara Falls.



STAP Comm President, Madison Perry and Mrs. Stacy Rominger hold the Advisor of the Year award. Madison nominated Mrs. Rominger for the prestigious award.

Winter/Spring Community Education Brochure Enclosed. Pull Out and Save Center Insert!

Introducing School Resource Officer Brian Lukowski

Orchard Park police officer Brian Lukowski became the Orchard Park High School's School Resource Officer in October 2018.



Brian Lukowski, a member of the Orchard Park Police Department for almost 14 years, brings a wealth of experience to his role as a School Resource Officer at OPHS.

Officer Lukowski has been a police officer since 1997 and has been with the Orchard Park Police Department since 2005. He brings a wealth of knowledge to this position given his role as a former Orchard Park D.A.R.E.

Officer and having had previous experience as a School Resource Officer. In addition, he has taken both basic and advanced school resource officer trainings and recently attended The State of New York Police Juvenile Officers Association conference to further prepare him for this position.

His first priority as a School Resource Officer is safety in the Orchard Park High School. As the SRO, he is the first line of defense and will be there to diffuse any situation that may arise by assessing and taking action. In addition to being a constant presence during the school day, Officer Lukowski is looking forward to establishing a more open relationship with students and working with teaching staff to educate students about many situations they may face.

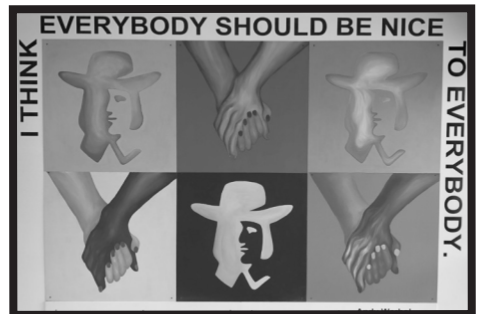
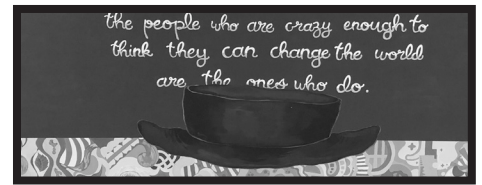
Officer Lukowski will be working at the Orchard Park High School during the school day. He has an office but can most often be found out and about within the building and he can be reached anytime via radio.

Mural Competition at OPHS

Last spring, STAP Comm held a Mural Contest where interested students could submit a mural design to be painted between the second and third floor staircase at the far end of the main hallway.

The designs were required to include a Quaker Nation theme, a quote, and relate to the Orchard Park High School. The submissions were judged on Creativity, Neatness, Visual Appeal, Use of Color, and Theme. STAP Comm reviewed the 12 submissions and ended up selecting two designs that were painted this fall.

The (top pictured) mural was created by Sara Bialkowski and painted outside of the cafeteria. The (lower pictured) mural was designed by Anna Bond and Jenna Onetto and was painted between the second and third floor staircase at the far end of the main hallway.



Sara Bialkowski completed her mural (top) this past September. It is located in the first floor hallway outside of the cafeteria. Anna Bond and Jenna Onetto completed and hung their mural (bottom) this past November. It is located on the stairwell between the second and third floor of the main hallway.

Download the OP Schools App Today

The OP Schools mobile app contains essential information on district news, events, and important reference information right at your fingertips. Download the app for free by searching for "OP Schools" in the App Store or Google Play.

The app provides a customized experience for Orchard Park families by allowing you to:

- Subscribe to your school's calendar and get the latest event updates and cycle day information;
- View your school's Virtual Backpack to find out about fundraisers, extracurricular activities, and school-specific information;
- Tap the PowerSchool Parent Portal icon to access your student's report cards, attendance history, and test scores;
- Quickly view lunch menus.

Users also have the option to receive push notifications on school closures, calendar changes, sports updates, and breaking news. The push notifications are also helpful to community members who would like to know when schools are closed even though they may not have a child in school.

Don't delay, download the app today!



Annual Academy of Finance Work-Based Learning Conference

The Academy of Finance held its sixth annual Work-Based Learning Conference at the Orchard Park High School in November. All 135 student members of the Academy of Finance participated.

The Academy of Finance introduces a student to the broad career opportunities available in the ever-changing financial services industry through involvement in a hands-on business curriculum. Students learn workplace skills and develop self-confidence as they participate in a rigorous and relevant business curriculum.

The goal of the annual conference is to allow students to practice and build on a series of work-based learning skills that will make them more college and career ready. At the heart of the Academy of Finance program is a work-based learning component and an internship. The ultimate goal is to give students a competitive advantage when they graduate from the Orchard Park High School. Although some of the work-based learning can be taught in classes, much of it cannot. Interaction with the local business community is essential.

The Work-Based Learning Conference has evolved over the years. It originally was a field trip to Niagara University where students attended a conference organized by the University.



Orchard Park High School senior Emily Major is pictured speaking at the Work-Based Learning Conference.

When budget constraints eliminated field trips, the Academy of Finance teachers and the High School administrators brainstormed how to replace it. Teachers attempted to have business people come in to speak after school several times a year based on grade level. This was ultimately unsuccessful due to low attendance by AOF students with commonly busy schedules. The staff believed that if they could bring the business community to the high school on just one day, there would be a much better turnout.

In short, this is the sixth year that the conference has been held at the



Academy of Finance College & Career Panel session during the annual Work-Based Learning Conference. The panel of alumni from left to right: Tyler Popiela, Jessica Wasiewicz, Katherine Filipksi, Giselle Gerace, Nick Lozanovski, and Katie Judge.

Orchard Park High School and the benefits have been tremendous. Attendance is typically at or near 100%. Local business professionals and AOF alumni are able to spend the

day with the students, which enhances the ties between local businesses, alumni and the school. At this year's conference, students attended grade-specific sessions that are beneficial to the students. These included an interview competition, Shark Tank competition, internship overview, career clusters, and a panel discussion. The Career Clusters allowed students to explore different options and talk to local business professionals about exactly what their jobs and experiences are like. The interview session allowed students to use their resumes and practice their interviewing skills. The day as a whole is an opportunity for the students to work on their soft skills. Students are asked to dress professionally, meet and talk to Academy of Finance Board members and other community business members. This gives the students



Academy of Finance seniors present to the "Shark Tank" at the Work-Based Learning Conference.

experience shaking hands, making eye contact, and speaking to professionals.

The annual Work-Based Learning Conference provides a unique learning opportunity for Academy of Finance students, and fosters relationships among the alumni, the business community, and our students that will continue beyond the classroom.

OPMS Bathroom Beautification



Sixth grade students paint ceiling tiles for the Middle School's bathroom beautification project. The tiles will be hung in bathrooms throughout the school.

The Character Education committee has taken on a new project at the Orchard Park Middle School and they are getting the students involved.

This year the Character Education committee set a goal to beautify the Middle School bathrooms. Their hope is to make the school bathrooms a powerful and uplifting place to help boost boys' and girls' self-esteem. Self-esteem can be something students struggle with in middle school and the bathrooms have been cited as an area where self-esteem is lowest. The committee believes that if they add quotes and positive messages, it will make the bathrooms a more positive place. They plan to create art with uplifting words to hang above the mirrors; place inspirational vinyl quotes on the bathroom stalls; and have students paint the ceiling tiles with positive words.

Students are getting involved and staying after school once a week to paint the ceiling tiles with vibrant colors and inspirational words and quotes to brighten the bathroom. These tiles will be hung in bathrooms throughout the school.

OPHS Students Interview Vets



Orchard Park High School students sit down with a veteran resident of Absolut Care Nursing Home to talk about his service to our nation.

Forty-five Seniors from OPHS met at the Absolut Care Nursing Home on the morning of Veterans Day to meet and interview veteran residents. Five students sat down with each veteran to ask about their service to our nation. Students met veterans from the Korean and Cold War conflicts and learned about their experiences in all branches of the US military. Some of the seniors were members of Varsity Club and brought letters for the veterans to read. The letters thanked each veteran for his service and brought a few tears to both veterans and students alike. The students were accompanied by their teachers, Mrs. Carla Gibson, Varsity Club advisor, and Mrs. Marie Feeley, Advanced Placement US Government teacher.

STAP Comm Partners with Roswell

Every year, STAP Comm works with Roswell Park to provide a joyful holiday to a family suffering with the hardships of cancer. During November, members of STAP Comm



On Wednesday, December 12th STAP Comm students wrapped gifts for the three families they were assisting for the holidays this year.

Participation was school-wide as homerooms bought gifts and donated food. Clubs like yearbook, the senior class, and outreach regularly make substantial monetary donations to the program. Though this time of year may be difficult for a family with a member struggling with cancer, Roswell Adopt-A-Family helps to bring a little light to the holiday season.

went homeroom to homeroom selling cancer ribbons and OP Cares stickers to fundraise. The ribbons were then decorated and displayed throughout the school to show support. The list of supplies and gifts requested was sent out to each homeroom and as a school, OPHS seeks to fulfill their needs and wants. This year approximately \$1,300 was raised in addition to generous donations of food, clothes and toys from the faculty, staff and students. This year STAP Comm was able to assist two additional families as a result of the funds raised.

On December 9th, STAP Comm students purchased the gifts for the families. The student government students and parents wrapped the gifts on December 12th and a STAP Comm parent delivered them to the drop off.

Meteorologist Heather Waldman visits Windom Elementary

W^{GRZ} meteorologist Heather Waldman visited fourth graders at Windom Elementary in November to teach students about her job and about different kinds of weather. Her visit kicked off the fourth grade Reader's Workshop unit on nonfiction books and extreme weather.

Ms. Waldman talked to students about a typical day as a meteorologist, how the green screen works, how a forecast is prepared and how it gets shared to the public. The students also learned about various kinds of extreme weather including earthquakes and hurricanes, and were even shown video clips of how tornadoes form. Students had an opportunity to ask Ms. Waldman questions at the end of the presentation. Her visit got the kids excited to start their reading unit and have been referencing facts they learned throughout their studies.

Ms. Waldman's visits make such an impact on the students that she has been regularly invited back. "This was her third year working with us at Windom and we're lucky to have created such an awesome partnership with an expert from our community," said fourth grade teacher Mrs. Elizabeth McEwen.



Meteorologist Heather Waldman (standing in the back) is pictured with fourth graders at Windom Elementary school. Her presentation taught students about meteorology and helped kick off their Reader's Workshop unit on nonfiction books and extreme weather.

Lynch Joins OPHS as House II Principal

The District is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. William Lynch as the new House II principal at the Orchard Park High School. Mr. Lynch was most recently at Community School #53 for two years, serving as both the acting principal and the assistant principal.



Orchard Park High School House II Principal Mr. William Lynch.

Prior to that, he was at Westminster Community Charter School where he ran the extended day program and integrated physical activity and social skills into the curriculum as a Program Coordinator and a Director of Physical Education. In addition to his administrative experience, he was the Head Men's Soccer Coach at Erie Community College for three years, and is a level two trainer in SPARK PE curriculum. Mr. Lynch holds the following certifications: School Building Leader and School District Leader. He received his Masters of Science in Education from SUNY Cortland in 2006.

Become an Orchard Park Pride Sponsor

The Orchard Park Pride program recognizes outstanding high school seniors for their academic and vocational achievements, character and leadership. As we acknowledge these young people, we alert the community and area employers to the high quality of our students who are potential employees and we make the students aware of the possibilities available in Orchard Park for future employment.

A committee composed of representatives from the Orchard Park Chamber of Commerce, local businesses, Orchard Park High School and the community has convened again this year to highlight deserving students and promote links between these students and the local business community.

Ten percent of the senior class will be chosen in January and recognized at a dinner on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 in the OPHS cafeteria at 6:15 p.m.

Orchard Park is proud of these students. We are confident that you will want to be part of this important event by becoming a sponsor and sharing your career knowledge with these outstanding youths. As a sponsor, you will be seated with an assigned student and the student's parents. You will also be acknowledged in the dinner program. Sponsors will be provided with biographical information about their student one month prior to the dinner. The \$150.00 sponsorship fee helps defray the cost of dinner for the sponsor, student and parents as well as the student's award. The limited number of students will be assigned to sponsors in the order in which the reservations are received. If you respond by March 1, 2019, your name will appear in the program and in press releases. Please contact Amy See at 209-6272 or visit www.opschools.org/Page/10079 if you would like additional information or have any questions.

Annual Cider Day at OPHS



Students from Brittany Sparks' Biology class are pictured with the Cider Press. From left to right is Megan Baun, Gabriel Thornton, Sean Clifford, Shelby Suto and Sydney Grimes.

Orchard Park High School Biology teacher Mr. Mark VanDerwater produced some delicious live science for Orchard Park High School Biology students as part of the annual Cider Pressing Day in October.

Each year since 2007, Mr. VanDerwater has been bringing in his family's hand-crank cider press. The press is a replica of cider presses used from the 18th century onward and were staples on early American farms.

Mr. VanDerwater not only allows over 400 biology students each year to experience using his family's hand-crank cider press, but gives students an authentic learning opportunity by allowing them to see how the biology lessons they learn in class work in nature. VanDerwater connects agriculture, the ecology of food chains, cell biology, evolution by natural selection, plant reproduction, and human history all while showing the students how to make apple cider.

Inclement Weather Procedures

At this time of year it is very important to be aware of our inclement weather procedures. The decision to close schools is not an easy one to make and often the decision needs to be made quickly and decisively and always in the best interest for the continued safety of our students and staff. We begin the decision process at 4 a.m. or sooner, depending on the weather and the forecast. With more than fifty other locations that we transport students to (BOCES, private schools, special programs), a delayed start is usually not an option for a district our size.

Once the decision is made to close, radio and television stations are contacted, the district's webpage is updated and the iConnect notification is sent out. Parents should take a few moments to sign into the Parent Portal and review their contact information to make sure that it's current. Please visit <https://powerschool.opschools.org> for more information.

The Orchard Park Central School District covers approximately 50 square miles, and much of the area is hilly terrain shaped in a narrow band that stretches south. Because of the land formation, it is common to have varying weather at different ends of the district. So even though school may not be closed, your decision to keep your child home is quite appropriate if the weather conditions around your home are a safety concern.

If weather turns bad during the school day, students will remain at school until the weather is clear enough to travel. Typically, we begin the dismissal process early, which allows the extra travel time needed in bad weather to get students home - close to

the regular time. To increase the potential for older siblings to be home when the younger ones arrive, the dismissal sequence starts with high school students. Middle school dismissal follows, and elementary students are dismissed last. If parents or older siblings cannot be home for the returning youngsters, please make sure your child knows of an alternate place to go, like a specific friend or neighbor's home.

It is a good idea to talk to your child about cold weather safety. It is important to check your child's (even teenagers) outerwear. Protecting exposed skin during cold weather is extremely important: warm coats, hats, gloves, scarves, and boots will help protect your child during the winter season.

When considering the safety of students in cold weather the following information from the National Weather Service is used as a guideline in making a determination to close schools:

- Cautionary: Wind Chills of -18 to -20 degrees
- Advisory: Wind Chills of -25 degrees or below
- Warning: Wind Chills of -35 degrees or below

In many areas of the country, schools will not close until the wind chill temperature is at the Warning level of -40 degrees or below. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that no one should be outside with unprotected skin with wind-chill factors in the range of -40 degrees or below. In Orchard Park, if the wind chill temperature reaches above the advisory level, school may be delayed or closed.



Virtual Backpack

The Orchard Park Central School District is sending flyers home through the Virtual Backpack available on our website. You can visit the Virtual Backpack

for your child's building at the link below or use the QR code.
www.opschools.org/opcsdvirtualbackpacks





Parent Information Series on Mental and Social Emotional Health

By: Lisa M. Krueger, Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction & Pupil Services

Orchard Park's 3-year Comprehensive District Education Plan (CDEP) outlined the following goal:

Promote the social emotional well being of the OPCSD Community through student support, staff development, resource coordination and parent involvement.

More than Sad Presentation

This presentation is designed to provide parents with tools to identify signs and symptoms of depression, how to talk with a child/teen about their behaviors and feelings, and how to get help. Presenter Missy Stolfi is the Director of the Western New York branch of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. This same presentation will be offered twice, and parents and community members can attend the session that is most convenient.

Tuesday, January 15 OPHS Auditorium 6:30-8 P.M. OR

Thursday, January 31 OPMS Auditorium 6:30-8 P.M.

Viewing of the documentary *Angst*

Angst is an IndieFlix Original documentary designed to raise awareness around anxiety. The film includes interviews with children, teens, educators, experts and parents. For additional information or to see the documentary preview, please visit <https://angstmovie.com/trailer/>.

Tuesday, February 26 in the OPMS Auditorium 6:30-8 P.M.

To support this goal, we are launching a Parent Information Series on Mental and Social Emotional Health. This three-part series will feature local experts, panelists, and documentary films to increase awareness on topics related to social emotional health. All parents and community members are welcome to attend these free events.

Viewing of the documentary *Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age* followed by panelist discussion

Screenagers is an award-winning film that probes into the vulnerable corners of family life, and depicts the messy struggles over social media, video games and academics. The film offers solutions on how we can help our kids navigate the digital world. For additional information regarding *Screenagers*, please visit <https://www.screenagersmovie.com/>. Following the viewing of the film, a panelist of local experts will share insight and engage in a question/answer segment.

Monday, March 25 in the OPHS Auditorium 6:30-8:30 P.M.

The Orchard Park Central School District is committed to educating the whole child, which means going beyond supporting children's basic educational and academic needs. We are committed to supporting our students, and their families, to help develop children who will become healthy adults who are equipped to respond to the challenges of life. We look forward to partnering with you and your attendance at these free events.

OPMS Holds Pajama Day to Benefit the NICU



Seventh grader Kendra Niewczyk at the Orchard Park Middle School wanted to help children in the NICU at Oishei Children's Hospital, where her mother is a nurse. Kendra coordinated with her teachers to plan a pajama day to benefit the NICU. Middle School students could donate \$1 and wear their pajamas to school on Friday, December 14th. The entire Middle School participated and raised over \$1,200.

The money will be used to purchase Tim Horton's gift cards for parents of children in the NICU.

To the right are pajama clad middle schoolers, Isabella Pontius, Brookelynn Przybylak, Kendra Niewczyk, Kailey Wells and Samantha Sulkowski on the December 14th pajama day.

OP Seniors Sign Letters of Intent to Play Collegiate Level Sports

Seven Orchard Park High School seniors signed their national letters of intent to play their sports at the college level. The seniors signed their letters at a ceremony at the Orchard Park High School on Wednesday, November 14th. Listed below are their bios in alphabetical order by last name.



Pictured from left to right (back row): Mr. Jonathan Wolf, Jenna Crean, Jake Schaffer, Mr. David Hack; (front row): Julia Schurr, Elizabeth Blake, Elizabeth Lis, Sydney Bielicki, and Fabiola Adorno.



Fabiola Adorno

Fabiola Adorno plans to attend SUNY Cortland next year to play field hockey. She was first introduced to the sport in 6th grade gym class and was encouraged to try out for the modified team. After volunteering to fill an open goalie position, Fabiola's love for being a goalie began. In addition to playing on Orchard Park's Varsity team, Fabiola plays for the

Buffalo Hurricanes. She has also belonged to the Futures program and the Whalers club. Fabiola says that her passion for the game is what makes her successful. She loves the speed and fast-paced nature of the sport and wanted to continue playing in college to push herself to the next level. She chose Cortland because it felt like home. Fabiola plans to major in Biochemistry and eventually pursue a career in the medical field.

Sydney Bielicki plans to attend the University at Buffalo next year to play Division I softball. Sydney has been playing for nine years and currently plays for New York Inferno in addition to the Orchard Park Varsity team. She loves the competitiveness of the game and feels that what makes her successful in the sport is her



Sydney Bielicki

confidence, dedication, and talent. Sydney chose UB for its size and close proximity to home, which will allow her family to see her play often. She is especially grateful to her parents, grandfather, and her coaches for all of their support. Sydney plans to major in Forensic Psychology and ultimately become a Doctor of Psychology.

Elizabeth Blake plans to attend Canisius College next year to swim. After trying out other sports, she was inspired by her cousin to swim. She started at age seven when she joined STAR Swimming. Elizabeth loves the friends she has made along the way and feels that her passion and work ethic have contributed to her success in the sport. She wants to continue to swim in college to be part of a team and to enhance her college experience as a student athlete. Elizabeth plans to study Accounting/Forensic Accounting.



Elizabeth Blake



Jenna Crean

Jenna Crean will be attending Duke University in the fall for track & field. She has been running since she was in 7th grade and credits her coach, Mr. David Wert, for inspiring her to join the cross country team in middle school. Jenna loves how the track & field community is very supportive of one another and that it's both a team and an individual sport. She believes

that maintaining a positive mentality and humble confidence is what makes her successful in track. She is excited to continue running at the college level to learn more about herself and the sport. Jenna chose Duke for its positive and supportive culture and team. Jenna plans to major in Environmental Sciences and apply that knowledge to make tangible differences in environmental health. She also hopes to expand her natural and vegan cosmetics business into a career.

Continued on the next page...

Collegiate Signings cont.

Elizabeth Lis plans to attend St. Bonaventure University next year to play softball. She has been playing since she was five years old. In addition to playing on the Orchard Park Varsity team, she has played on the Easton Heat Gold travel team in the summer. Elizabeth loves how the game allows her to always learn something new. Elizabeth has known since she was a high school freshman that she wanted to play softball at the college level. She feels that what makes her so successful in the sport is her determination to practice and improve her pitching and hitting skills. She chose St. Bonaventure University for its campus, academics, and because it felt like home. Elizabeth plans to study Childhood and Special Education, which would allow her to work with children in the future and coach a softball team.



Elizabeth Lis

soccer for the physicality and the level of competition the sport brings. He chose Yale because it will allow him to achieve his athletic and academic goals. Jake plans to major in astrophysics and hopes to become an aerospace engineer.

Julia Schurr plans to attend Canisius College next year to play soccer. She has been playing since she was five years old and attributes her interest in the sport to her brothers. Julia plays soccer on the Western New York Flash ECNL team in addition to Orchard Park. She loves being part of a team and making new friendships with those who share a common goal



Julia Schurr

of winning. She credits her success in soccer to the support of her family, friends, teammates and coaches. Julia chose Canisius for its size and close proximity to home, as well as for its balance of academics and athletics. She plans to major in chemistry and hopes to become a sports medicine physician someday.



Jake Schaffer

Jake Schaffer plans to attend Yale University next year to play soccer. He started in Orchard Park Soccer Club when he was five years old and began playing for Empire United Soccer Academy at 12. He has been a member of the elite youth US Soccer Development Academy team for the last five years. Jake loves playing



Follow [op_athletics](#) for the latest sports news and updates!

Safety & Security Project Next Steps

The Safety & Security Project Vote from November 2018 passed with 626 “Yes” votes and 178 “No” votes. Mr. Bill Bosinski, Director of Facilities, and Mr. Jeffrey Petrus, Assistant Superintendent for Business, are working with the architects, engineers, and construction managers to finalize the detailed drawings and specifications that will be submitted to the New York State Education Department (NYSED) this Spring. They are also working with the building principals over the next few months to finalize the final design and specs for the security entrances. Additionally, the Facilities Committee will reconvene in January to start planning the next project for a Fall 2020 vote.

Petitions for Candidacy on the Board of Education Begin February 1, 2019

Petitions for school board candidates in the Orchard Park Central School District will be available beginning on February 1, 2019 in the Office of the District Clerk, 2240 Southwestern Blvd, West Seneca, Monday thru Friday during normal business hours.

To be a qualified candidate for the Board of Education you must be a resident of the district for at least one year prior to the election, a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age, able to read and write, and cannot be an employee of the district.

The terms of two trustees on the seven-member school board are up for election, Mr. Dwight Eagan and Mr. Robert Mahany. Each term is for three years, July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2022. Candidates must obtain at least 25 valid signatures. Petitions are due in the office of the District Clerk by 5 p.m. on Monday, April 22, 2019.

Public voting on the budget and Board of Education candidates will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 from 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. in the Orchard Park High School Gymnasium. Please use the Freeman Road entrance.

Images From Around the District



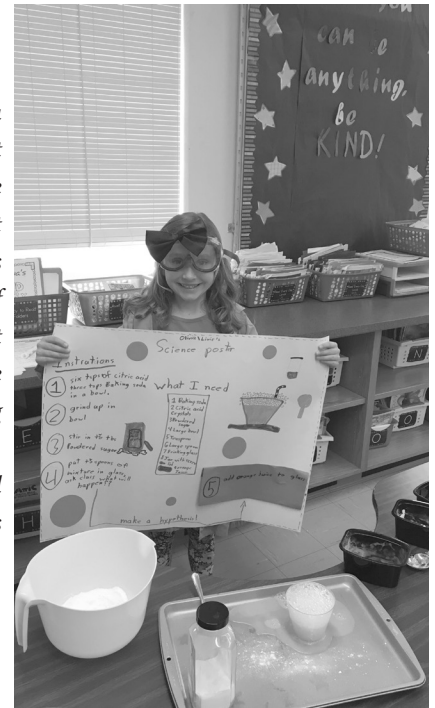
Several members of the Buffalo Junior Sabres visited classrooms at Eggert Elementary in December. Junior Sabre Jeremy Forman is pictured with second graders from Mrs. Ann Noe's class. The students had a chance to interview the Junior Sabres and ask the important questions including: What is your favorite ice cream flavor?



In Mr. Adam Kreutinger's art class the students were studying Vincent Van Gogh and his painting *Starry Night*. The students learned history about Van Gogh and Post-Impressionism. South Davis students Evan Goldwater, Benjamin Kennedy and Cooper Miner are pictured above creating their own interpretation of *Starry Night* using an impressionistic style.



Students in Mrs. Jaela Matthews class at Ellicott Elementary will each have a chance to be the Scientist of the Week. The students select an experiment of their choice, practice it at home and perform the experiment the following week for their classmates. Olivia Sullivan is pictured after performing her gas experiment for the class.



On Friday, December 14th Windom Elementary kindergarten students were joined by their parents to make gingerbread houses in the Windom Elementary Cafeteria.

Eggert Elementary Kindergarten students performed holiday songs at their winter performance on Friday, December 14th. Parents were able to come in to view the show.

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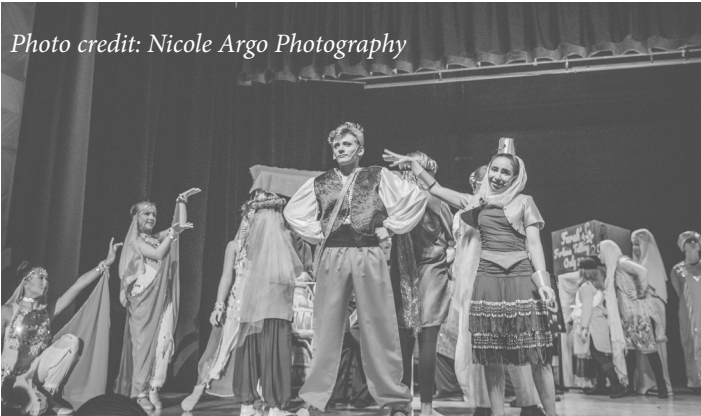
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Images From Around the District

Photo credit: Nicole Argo Photography



Orchard Park Middle School performed Disney's "Aladdin, Jr." from November 29th-December 1st. The show was a new adaptation to the Academy Award-winning film, "Aladdin." (Visit nicoleargophotography.com for more photos.)



South Davis fourth graders (from left) Lauren Crowe, Jake Gallagher, Andrew Tyrakowski, Benjamin Oswald and Cameron Mears are pictured holding the kindness catchers they made to celebrate Unity Day on October 24th. The message is to unite for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. Students wore orange to show their support.



Eighth grade students in Mr. Jeff Bird's class visited Buffalo City Court to enhance their classroom lesson in law and what they read in the book "Twelve Angry Men." Following a tour of the courts, the students had lunch at Pearl Street Grill.



Students in Mrs. Ermolovich's fourth grade class at Ellicott Elementary dress their best as part of the school's Red Ribbon Week spirit days to show their commitment to living drug free.



OPHS teachers Mr. Bella (left) and Mr. Dena were honored on October 30th at a ceremony at SUNY Buffalo State that welcomed new Western New York Master Teachers to the program. Congrats to both!



Windom teachers participated in a "Book Tasting," which allowed them to "sample" different books recommended by fellow colleagues. The teachers walked around, found a book that looked interesting, and previewed its contents before deciding whether to add it to their "menu" of book choices.

Orchard Park Central Schools Board of Education

Orchard Park, New York 14127

Editors: Julianne Becker & Jennifer Spoto

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January Upcoming Events

- 10...EL PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 10...Special Ed. 8th Grade Parent Scheduling Night at HS, 6 p.m.
- 10...8th Grade Scheduling Night at HS, 7 p.m.
- 10...MS 8th to 9th Grade Special Education Transition Parent Meeting at HS, 6 p.m.
- 12...ECMEA Elementary, JH & SH Jazz & JH Chorus Auditions
- 13...2019 Quaker Cheer Challenge
- 14...HS STAP Comm Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 16...MS 8th Grade Winter Concert, 6:30 p.m.
- 17...MS 8th Grade Winter Concert Snow Date, 6:30 p.m.
- 18...Elementary Half Day Dismissal, 11:30 a.m.
- 18...Middle School Half Day Dismissal, 10:30 a.m.
- 18...EL Movie Night, 6:30 p.m.
- 18...WE Winter Family Skate Night, 5 - 7 p.m.
- 19...ECMEA JH All-County Instrumental Auditions at HS
- 21...Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School
- 22-25...HS Local / Regents Exams
- 24...Winter/Spring Community Education Walk-in Registration, 6 - 8 p.m.
- 24...EG Roller Skating Fundraiser, 5 - 7 p.m.
- 25...HS Q2 Marking Period Ends
- 25...MS Q2 Marking Period Ends
- 26...ECMEA HS All-County Auditions - BAVPA
- 26...OP Winter Guard Home Show "Winterscape" at HS, 4 p.m.
- 28...HS Q3 Marking Period Begins
- 28...MS Q3 Marking Period Begins
- 28...Winter Community Education Classes Begin
- 28...Winter Driver Education Classes Begin
- 28...HS PTO Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 28...HS Post Prom Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 28...5th-6th Grade Special Ed. Transition Parent Mtg. at MS, 6:30 p.m.
- 30...Chamber Ensemble Concert - Band at HS, 7 p.m.

Veterans Day 2018



South Davis Elementary students perform a song during their Veterans Day Assembly.



Windom Elementary student, Zachary Dombek is pictured with his stepfather during the Windom Veterans Day breakfast.



Ellicott Elementary students sing patriotic songs during their Veterans Day breakfast.



Eggert Elementary student musicians warm up before performing during Eggert's first annual Veterans Day Assembly.



Orchard Park Middle School student Nathan Powers is pictured with his grandparents Richard and Lu Powers. Mr. Powers spoke to Nathan's homeroom about his time in the service.