2018 Wall of Distinction Honorees

The Wall of Distinction Committee has selected two outstanding recipients this year to be honored. They are Captain Daniel Roach from the Class of 2003 and Duane Hitchings.

After leaving OCS, Dan Roach attended Geneseo and upon graduation received a commission in the United States Air Force. He has served in multiple locations across the United States and internationally as an Air Force Security Forces Officer, and in a variety of positions including flight commander, operations officer, and antiterrorism officer for multiple Air Force units around the world. Captain Roach authored defense plans for two air advisor compounds which had to be implemented during a response to a life-threatening insider attack. Captain Roach’s quick thinking and decisive actions were responsible for the safe evacuation of 50 personnel. For this he was awarded the Bronze Star for exceptional service. During his time in the Air Force, Captain Roach developed and implemented protection and anti-terrorism operations safeguarding tens of thousands of military members, civilian employees and their families. His actions guarded over 200 billion dollars in government assets and enabled the success of over three thousand combat missions in defense of the United States.

The next inductee is Mr. Duane Hitchings. Duane attended Onondaga until his junior year when his father sent him to Manlius Military Academy. At an early age, Duane found his passion as a songwriter, producer, and musician. Performing with some famous musicians led to recording dates with legendary artists of the 60’s and 70’s including Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, Alice Cooper and his own band, Cactus. In the late 70’s he worked closely with Rod Stewart, co-writing the big hit “Do You Think I’m Sexy”. In the 80’s he turned to films, writing themes for Rocky 4 and Iron Eagle and winning a Grammy for “I’ll Be Where the Heart Is” from the Flashdance soundtrack. The next decade was spent writing and producing dance, rap, and R&B hits for TLC, Notorious B.I.G, and 2Pac. Duane now works in the Nashville area writing songs for Rod Stewart, and award winning country artists Tim McGraw and Faith Hill.

The plaques honoring all of the Wall of Distinction honorees are in the foyer of the Jr./Sr. High School cafeteria. Applications for nominations for the Wall of Distinction will be in the winter newsletter. Congratulations to Captain Daniel Roach and Mr. Duane Hitchings for the impact they have made and the success they have achieved. Tiger Pride!
In March of 2016 voters approved the Capital Project we are currently working on. Voters overwhelmingly approved a multiple-part project with the main area of renovations happening at the Bus Garage. Major parts of the project include: upgrading the Bus Garage facilities; energy performance projects throughout the district upgrading lighting; and renovating a few areas in each of the building facilities that are used by students such as the Family Consumer Science room and the library at the Jr./Sr. High School, the wheeler computer lab and a small area in the Rockwell library as well. The Capital Project was approved by the State Education Department last February, contractors were hired and work began on the bus garage at the beginning of May and in the buildings at the end of June.

The Energy Performance Project is still in review at the State Education Department. Energy performance projects have a much longer review process going through much stricter review and analysis protocol to ensure the district shows a true energy savings that pays for the project.

At the Rockwell Elementary library, the makerspace room is in full use by the teachers and students. The new pegboard and furniture are used for robotics and library lessons alike.

The project overall has seen its fair share of delays especially at the bus garage. Even with that said, the renovations have transformed the bus garage into a new facility that will last many years and serve our buses while keeping them safe for transporting our children. We are very appreciative of the community support for this project. Please review the photo album of pictures showing before and after shots of the project.

We are comfortably into a new school year. I am proud to be part of the community that has great expectations for all students, that supports the school to provide the needed resources, and that values the hard work of staff, students and volunteers.

Change happens all around us daily. We are seeing change again in education with the implementation of ESSA, Every Student Succeeds Act. Curriculum and standards are being redesigned and rebranded. The changes in education are much like the changes of the seasons - each with its own beauty and challenges just like the seasons present. Many of the curricular areas have seen extensive revisions, including but not limited to, English language arts, math, social studies, science and the fine arts. Our teachers have been working diligently keeping up with the new standards and curriculum changes and to develop lessons in the five areas where we need to make significant changes that are right on par with the next generation learning standards.

During the summer, teachers worked over several days on curriculum examining where we are and what we have to do. This work has also carried over into the new school year with the teachers spending their time during the day and after school writing lesson plans and curriculum to meet the new standards that have been propelled upon us once again.

The Every Student Succeeds Act comes with various resources and information for parents and educators. Please see the key points that parents should know about the Every Student Succeeds Act below. If you have any questions, please contact your child/children’s classroom teacher or your building principal.
Capital Project - Before and After
Things every parent should know about New York State’s plan for the Every Student Succeeds Act

**What is ESSA?**
The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is a law that outlines how states can use federal money to support public schools. In January 2018, the federal government approved New York State’s plan to spend the approximately $1.6 billion the state receives annually under ESSA.

**Why does it matter?**
New York State is committed to ensuring that all students succeed and thrive in school no matter who they are, where they live, where they go to school, or where they come from. Since fall 2016, New York State asked for feedback to design a plan that improves equity, access, and opportunity for all students.

**What do parents need to know?**
Below are highlights of important elements for parents and families in the plan. We encourage you to visit the ESSA Section of NYSED’s website to learn more about the plan.

1. **New York State values a well-rounded education for all.**
   
   Parents and families should know how their child’s school is performing in many areas, not just academic subjects.

   **Schools and districts will be measured annually on these indicators**

   **For all schools**
   - English language arts
   - Math
   - Science
   - Progress in learning English (for those who are learning English as an additional language)
   - Chronic absenteeism (absent 10% or more instructional days)

   **For high schools**
   - Social studies
   - Graduation rate
   - College, career, and civic readiness index: taking advanced coursework, earning technical education certificates, etc.

   **Future indicators**
   - Out-of-school suspensions (beginning with 2018-19 results)
   - Being ready for high school (once data becomes available)

2. **New York State wants to reduce testing time and improve the testing experience.**

   **State tests in grades 3-8**
   - English and math will be reduced from three to two days each.

   **95%**
   - The law requires that 95% of students in each tested subgroup take the appropriate state tests. New York State will work with parents, schools, and districts to increase participation.

   **New York State will continue to translate state math and science tests into more languages, and when funding becomes available, will create a language arts tests in students’ native languages.**
Shawn Broton

I retired from the City of Syracuse Police Department in January of 2018 after more than 29 years. I worked in a variety of places during my career including patrol, community policing, neighborhood anti-crime team and criminal investigations. As a supervisor, I worked in patrol and criminal investigations and as a commander; I worked in patrol both as a Lieutenant and as a Captain. For the last 8 years, I worked as the Deputy Chief for the Investigations Bureau. I have experience as a hostage negotiator as well as SWAT operator and team commander. I am also a US Army veteran serving for 10 years total service active and reserve, I earned a Bachelor’s of Science degree from Syracuse University and a Master’s degree in Public Administration from Marist College. My wife, Wendy, and I have two daughters; Emma, age 12 and Addy, age 5. I look forward to working as an SRO at Wheeler and Rockwell Elementary Schools.

District News

Congratulations Mr. Mauro, New York State Master Teacher!

Mr. Jason Mauro has been selected as a New York State Master Teacher!

Jason Mauro earned his B.S. in education and M.S. in curriculum and instruction both from SUNY Cortland and is certified to teach Elementary, Middle School General Science and High School Living Environment. Mr. Mauro has been at Onondaga Central School for 23 years and currently teaches 7th grade Life Science, Honors Living Environment and a SUNY ESF class called Global Environment and the Evolution of Human Culture. Mr. Mauro discovered his aspiration for working with energetic and inquisitive middle school children through growing up with a strong connection to nature and a job as a summer camp counselor. He has a passion for nature education and uses that to get kids excited about science and to relate STEM topics to their everyday lives and environment. Mr. Mauro has been a board member for the Onondaga Audubon Society and has attended two conferences at Hog Island in Maine related to environmental education and leadership. In the summer you will find him working at Baltimore Woods Nature Center as a nature educator for children in grades 5-8. Mr. Mauro is the Envirothon team advisor and is the program leader for a science based trip to the Florida Keys. In his free time, you will find him hiking Adirondack high peaks, camping, running races or bird watching. As a Master Teacher Mr. Mauro is most looking forward to collaborating with other Master Teachers and learning from their experience and expertise and applying what he learns in the classroom.

Dr. Josephine Salvador, Executive Director of the NYS Master Teacher Program explains that members of the NYS Master Teacher Program form a network of over 900 outstanding educators who demonstrate a deep understanding of their content area, pedagogy, and students' families and communities and have a commitment to growth in these areas. Master Teachers are dedicated to sharing best practices to provide the most innovative STEM education for all students, mentor current and pre-service teachers, and—more importantly—inspire their students, who are the next generation of STEM teachers.

Our greatest congratulations to Mr. Mauro – you are a true inspiration and are very deserving of such a coveted honor!

Welcome New Staff
Welcome New Staff

Molly Ganley
I am a Syracuse native with an undergraduate degree from SUNY Geneseo in Business Administration and graduate of LeMoyne College Masters in Teaching program for adolescent Spanish. My knowledge and experience with the Spanish language started when I studied abroad in Sevilla, Spain and Guayaquil, Ecuador during college, but was shaped and impacted most by living in Chile 2012-2013. In my free time I enjoy practicing yoga, playing rec basketball and spending time with friends & family. I taught at DUOC University of Concepcion and subbed for both the city of Syracuse and Liverpool districts. I come to you from Canastota CSD. I am very excited to join the Syracuse and Liverpool districts. I come to you from Canastota CSD. I am very excited to join the OCS community and share my love of Spanish with your children! Let's go Tigers!!

Liz Eipp
Hi Everyone. My name is Liz Eipp and I am glad to be with you students during your lunchtimes. I have been a Substitute Bus Monitor since 2014 and I know many of you from riding on your bus. I live on Onondaga Hill with my husband and my grandson, Gavin. I also have two grown children, Phillip and Sarah, and two other grandchildren, Cali and Kalin. I love to laugh, learn new things, meet new friends, go camping, and take boat rides. I am looking forward to a great year and getting to know more of you.

Greg Smithson
My name is Greg Smithson and I live in Camillus. I am a big sports fan. I enjoy Syracuse sports and the New York Yankees. I have been a substitute custodian for the district for almost 5 years and now I am happy to be here at Wheeler Elementary School.

Lauren Winters
Hello! My name is Lauren Winters. Over the last 10 years, I have worked with children of all ages. I am excited to be involved in the OCS community at Wheeler Elementary as a Teaching Assistant. My husband and I reside in South Onondaga with our daughter Teagan and our four pets; Tater Tot, Cupcake, Lilac and Hershey. When time allows, I love being crafty and going on nature adventures with my family. I look forward to joining the team at Wheeler Elementary School and watching the students grow.

Jennifer Woody
Jennifer Woody, OCS School Business Administrator, received her undergraduate degree in Elementary Education and Masters in Special Education from SUNY Cortland. Shortly after, she was hired at East Syracuse Minoa where she taught Second and Third grade for thirteen years. During that time she continued her education at SUNY Cortland obtaining her Certificate of Advanced Studies in District Leadership and Building Leadership. A few years later, she returned to Cortland to earn her District Business Leader Certification. Jennifer grew up in the area, and currently resides in Camillus. She is married and has three children ages 7, 5, and 1.
School/sports physicals are being offered at the Jr./Sr. High School and Wheeler Elementary School on Wednesday, November 7, 2018.

If you would like to schedule a school physical for your child, please contact Ms. Rohe at 552-5026 for Jr./Sr. High School students or Mrs. Larkin at 552-5050 for Wheeler students.

OCS DRAMA PRESENTS:

TREASURE ISLAND

By Phil Willmott

From the novel by Robert Louis Stevenson

Inspired by real life female adventurers, Phil Wilmott has changed the gender of several of the central characters without compromising the spirit of Stephenson’s classic novel. This swashbuckling stage adaptation brings out all the adventure and comedy of this ever popular story. Join us for a night of fun, adventure and of course SWASHBUCKLING!!

Friday & Saturday November 16th & 17th in the Jr/Sr High Auditorium

Tickets are $4 for students and $7 for adults.
Congratulations to Jessica Casolare, Class of 2019, for being accepted to be a member of the Everson Teen Arts Council (ETAC) for the 2018-19 school year. The Everson describes the ETAC as follows:

This is a fantastic opportunity for teens from Onondaga County to work directly with an arts organization to gain valuable experience to add to their resume, work directly with museum professionals and professional artists, and learn about future career paths. ETAC is a year-long commitment and students receive a stipend to participate.

The Everson Teen Arts Council is a partnership between the Everson and teens from Onondaga County, offering a safe platform for teens to share their voice, work with their peers and engage with the greater community. The Teen Arts Council provides teens with dynamic leadership opportunities to create meaningful and relevant programs and exhibitions, while giving teens space to explore identity, build skills and prepare for college and careers.

You can read more about the ETAC right here on their website: https://www.everson.org/learn/everson-teen-arts-council-etac.

Perhaps you have a saxophone or trumpet in your attic that hasn't been used in a while. Maybe you know of someone who has a clarinet gathering dust. It seems a shame to have those band instruments sitting idle, right? If you know of a gently-used, unloved instrument we can put to good use, we'd like to talk with you. Wheeler is accepting donations of band instruments (flutes, clarinets, saxophones, trumpets, trombones, baritone, tuba and drum kits) that can be used by elementary students who would like to join our band. A School District representative will send you a thank you letter, documenting your donation. The value of your instrument donation should be deductible on your Federal Income Tax (check with your tax preparer). Being a band member has shaped who you are today. Please help our students have that same experience.

Art Club students creating props for Drama
### Upcoming Dates & Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>Modified Boys' Basketball Begins</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jr./Sr. High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 5</td>
<td>JV/Varsity Winter Sports Begin</td>
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<td>Jr./Sr. High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 6</td>
<td>Booster Club Meeting</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Jr./Sr. High School Cafeteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>Picture Retake Day</td>
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<td>All Schools</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Physicals</td>
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<td>Wheeler &amp; Jr./Sr. High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 8</td>
<td>Wheeler End of 1st Marking Period</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 9</td>
<td>Half Day Students/Full Day Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 12</td>
<td>Veteran's Day - No School</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 13</td>
<td>Board of Education Meeting</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Rockwell Elementary</td>
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<td>November 14</td>
<td>PTO Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Rockwell Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Report Card Day</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wheeler &amp; Rockwell</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 16</td>
<td>Drama Club Production</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 17</td>
<td>Drama Club Production</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium</td>
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<td>November 19</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Conferences - Early Dismissal</td>
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<td>Wheeler &amp; Rockwell</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 20</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Conferences - Early Dismissal</td>
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<td>Wheeler &amp; Rockwell</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 21-23</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break</td>
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<td>No School</td>
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<td>December 4</td>
<td>Booster Club Meeting</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Jr./Sr. High School Cafeteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>Jr./Sr. HS Instrumental Concert</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium</td>
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<td>December 6</td>
<td>Jr./Sr. High School Vocal Concert</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 7</td>
<td>End of 2nd Marking Period</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jr./Sr. High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 11</td>
<td>Board of Education Meeting</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Wheeler Cafeteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 12</td>
<td>PTO Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Wheeler Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 13</td>
<td>Wheeler Vocal &amp; Instrumental Concert</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 21</td>
<td>Rockwell Holiday Sing-a-Long</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Rockwell Cafeteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 24 - January 1, 2019</td>
<td>Holiday Recess - No School</td>
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**Important** – Please note that the dates for the Drama Production were incorrect in the school calendar. The Drama Production will be held on November 16th and November 17th at 7:00 in the Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium.
Fire Prevention Month

October is Fire Prevention Month. As a way to say thank you to our volunteer fire departments for their hard work and dedication to our community, the Rockwell Staff prepared a meal for our local heroes. The Nedrow Fire Department hosts the weekly Bunk In Program for local departments to come together to protect our community and keep it safe. The meal included meatballs, ziti, baked chicken, salad, snacks and desserts. The Rockwell team hopes that you enjoy this well-deserved meal. Thank you for your service!

Measuring Matter

Students in Mrs. Featherstone’s second grade class recently completed a science unit on the topic of Measuring Matter. Estimating and predictions played a large part in the experiments. Students learned how to use thermometers, double pan balances, geo-boards, trundle wheels, meter and yards sticks. Each student learned how tall they were, and compared their heights to classmates. The students earned a medal from their teacher for their focus, determination and hard work! Mrs. Hart was so proud of their excellent work that each student earned a new book from her collection.
A Visit to Rohe Farm

For many of our Preschool students, Summer School this year has been an especially memorable experience. This year we were invited to visit Rohe Farm. On the farm the students had the opportunity to experience some of the highlights of a day in the life of a farmer.

Upon arrival the students went right to work checking on, feeding and petting different animals including: goats, rabbits, chickens, roosters, cows, sheep, and cats.

Next was collecting eggs from the chicken coop and working together to make some homemade butter to go on our crackers for snack.

After our hard day’s work we had time left for some fun. We went on a farm scavenger hunt and enjoyed some ice-cream.

Rohe farm was a wonderful learning experience for us and lots of fun! Thank you to Trish, Meghan, Caitlin and the rest of the Rohe family for having us!

Staff and students enjoyed learning about exercise and heart rate at Morning Program.
CSI: Wheeler Edition!

On September 20th Wheeler was visited by the Rochester Challenger Learning Center’s Green Machine! The Green Machine is an interactive solar powered mobile science laboratory that provides state of the art technology in a curriculum rich environment. Our 6th graders spent the day as real world crime scene investigators, gathering evidence, conducting experiments, hypothesizing and solving the Great Lakes Ecological Mystery! They were assigned to find out what was causing Merganser ducks to die in the Great Lakes region through research in hydrology, meteorology, biology, ecology, chemistry and energy! Once they were given their assignment and the background of the case, each class was split into two groups. One group would conduct a variety of tests and studies using computers, models and simulation tools in a top secret Wheeler location, and the other group went into the mobile lab where the evidence was stored and further deductions could be made. Groups would switch, and each student was given the chance to try and learn a variety of scientific skills, work in teams, and help their team leaders solve the case! Thank you to the sixth grade team for their support, and to Ms. Kissane for organizing such a great day!

Homecoming Parade!

Teddy Hourigan shares a positive message!
Celebrating Donald Crabtree
Robert Crabtree and his brother Donald are both alumni of Onondaga Central School. The two were very close. When Donald passed away, Robert wanted to honor his brother in a very special way. He decided to award the Rockwell and Wheeler libraries with a monetary donation to be used toward books.

Wheeler students helped celebrate Donald’s life in the library with Mr. Crabtree and Miss Kissane. They were able to borrow the new titles, each inscribed with a memorial bookplate for Donald who loved school, sports, and books. It was an insightful and thoughtful learning opportunity for the children and a beautiful way to remember those that came before us. We are grateful, thank-you Mr. Robert Crabtree!

Annual Glow Stick Party!

Merry-Go-Round Youth Theatre presents The Magic Paint Brush to 3rd graders
Aubre Mackey, an 11th grader at Onondaga Central School was a Delegate to the Congress of Future Medical Leaders in Lowell, MA on June 25-27, 2018.

The Congress is an honors-only program for high school students who want to become physicians or go into medical research fields. The purpose of this event is to honor, inspire, motivate and direct the top students in the country who aspire to be physicians or medical scientists, to stay true to their dream and, after the event, to provide a path, plan and resources to help them reach their goal.

Aubre Mackey was nominated by Dr. Mario Capecchi, winner of the Nobel Prize in Medicine and the Science Director of the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists to represent NY based on her academic achievement, leadership potential and determination to serve humanity in the field of medicine.

During the three-day Congress, Aubre Mackey joined students from across the country to hear Nobel Laureates and National Medal of Science Winners talk about leading medical research; be given advice from Ivy League and top medical school deans on what to expect in medical school; witness stories told by patients who are living medical miracles; be inspired by fellow teen medical science prodigies; and learn about cutting edge advances and the future in medicine and medical technology.

“This is a crucial time in America when we need more doctors and medical scientists who are even better prepared for a future that is changing exponentially,” said Richard Rossi, Executive Director, National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists. “Focused, bright and determined students like Aubre Mackey are our future and she deserves all the mentoring and guidance we can give her.”

The Academy offers free services and programs to students who want to be physicians or go into medical science. Some of the services and programs the Academy offers are online social networks through which future doctors and medical scientists can communicate; opportunities for students to be guided and mentored by physicians and medical students; and communications for parents and students on college acceptance and finances, skills acquisition, internships, career guidance and much more.

The National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists was founded on the belief that we must identify prospective medical talent at the earliest possible age and help these students acquire the necessary experience and skills to take them to the doorstep of this vital career. Based in Washington, D.C. and with offices in Boston, MA, the Academy was chartered as a nonpartisan, taxpaying institution to help address this crisis by working to identify, encourage and mentor students who wish to devote their lives to the service of humanity as physicians, medical scientists.
Junior/Senior High School

German American Partnership Program

This summer 13 Onondaga Central Students participated in a GAPP (German American Partnership Program) exchange with Lessing Gymnasium (University Preparatory High School) in Uelzen, Germany. The students traveled to Reykjavik, Iceland on August 1st, where they spent two nights and did lots of sightseeing. They saw the site of the first modern Parliament created in Iceland in the year 970. The students also saw Gullfoss waterfall and the Geyser for which all other geysers are named.

After Reykjavik, the students traveled to Berlin, Germany for much warmer weather and big city sites. 5 days were spent viewing the Reichstag, the Berlin Wall, the Jewish Memorial, Holocaust Museum, and Fernsehturm, as well as many other sites. Our first meal together in Berlin was the delicious Döner Kebap sandwich, which was well received. We traveled to Sanssouci Palace, went to the movies, and the zoo on the last day, before traveling to Uelzen, where our exchange families were anxiously waiting. After a snafu at the train station, we finally arrived and went with our host families. Our students spent 13 days with the host families in Uelzen along with a few side trips to Hamburg, Heidepark (amusement park), and Wolfsburg (home of Volkswagen and Autostadt), as well as weekend trips to various locations in north-west Germany. We also had the opportunity to meet up with the Mayor of Uelzen.

Herr (Mr.) Solan (OCS) and Frau Storck (Lessing Gymnasium) are already busy planning our next exchange for the fall of 2019 (Germans come here) and the summer of 2020 (We go to Germany). The trip is open to all students, but German students and students who have already hosted a German in the fall of 2019 will be given preference.

Onondaga Central School District and SECNY Federal Credit Union are pleased to announce the opening of a student-run credit union branch located at the Jr./Sr. High School. The grand opening celebration took place on Thursday, September 27, 2018.
Parents Night Out- Sponsored by the JV and Varsity Volleyball Teams

On Friday, December 14th, 2018, the JV and Varsity Volleyball teams will be hosting a Parents Night Out. This is an opportunity for parents to have childcare for a few hours to get some shopping done, work on the house, or just a chance to have a kid free dinner! Parents night out will be open to all Onondaga Central K-6 students. There will be kid friendly movies, crafts, manicures, athletic activities and much more! Drop off starts at 5 pm at Wheeler Middle School and pick up is by 9:30 pm. Cost per child is $10 and a maximum family cost is $25. Please contact Kristen Greean (greeank@yahoo.com) or Kristi Delgado (kdelgado@ocs.cnyric.org) for questions.

Envision National Youth Leadership Forum

Raymond Anderson was nominated by Kristin Delgado to attend the Envision National Youth Leadership Forum: National Security – Diplomacy, Intelligence & Defense in Washington, DC. It was a weeklong forum in July with fellow “scholars” from across the country.

Activities focused on Security, Reflection, and Career Exploration which included a trip to the floor of the House of Representatives and a visit to the U.S State Department, where he saw national security in action.

The program included a keynote address on the topic of A Day in the Life of Homeland Security, presented by Mr. Wade Townsend, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Raymond had the unprecedented opportunity to visit the Pentagon and the headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), where he learned even more about what careers in diplomacy, defense, and intelligence entail.

The program incorporated a career fair focused on careers in defense, diplomacy, and intelligence and Cyber Security Panel discussions about understanding the nation’s stance on Cyber Security from field experts.

Raymond and his fellow scholars participated in the Crisis or Crossroads simulation, in which they worked on strategies to deal with a real-world international drug dealing cartel, using the ideas they worked on in their strategy sessions. The simulation was followed by a mock press conference, which Raymond was elected by his peers to be the U.S. President. He addressed the issues and presented their proposed solutions.

The program hosted a member of the Wounded Warrior Project who shared details about the front lines of securing our nation.

The field trips also included a visit to Arlington National Cemetery for a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Raymond had a chance for some down time and explored the Smithsonian museums on the National Mall, as well as our nation’s memorials and toured our Nation’s monuments at night.

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On Friday, December 14th, 2018, the JV and Varsity Volleyball teams will be hosting a Parents Night Out. This is an opportunity for parents to have childcare for a few hours to get some shopping done, work on the house, or just a chance to have a kid free dinner! Parents night out will be open to all Onondaga Central K-6 students. There will be kid friendly movies, crafts, manicures, athletic activities and much more! Drop off starts at 5 pm at Wheeler Middle School and pick up is by 9:30 pm. Cost per child is $10 and a maximum family cost is $25. Please contact Kristen Greean (greeank@yahoo.com) or Kristi Delgado (kdelgado@ocs.cnyric.org) for questions.
The fall athletic season is coming to an end. This year we had 151 students participating. Varsity cross country, varsity girls’ soccer, and varsity football have all advanced to post season competition and modified sports still have a few remaining games. For a full wrap up of the fall athletic season please check back in the December newsletter.

I would like to thank everyone who has attended our athletic contests. There has been a very positive atmosphere at events and that is due in large part to the spectators. Our kids have worked hard all season and their efforts deserve recognition. We have received several compliments from opposing team’s coaches, administrators, and fans about the actions of our athletes in competition. Thank you to the athletes for representing Onondaga with pride, to the coaches for maintaining high standards of sportsmanship, and to the families for raising great kids. Collectively you have helped to make Onondaga Athletics something to be proud of.

Winter sports are starting very soon. Please make sure to register your child in Family ID well in advance of the season so that their participation can be approved by the nurse before the start of practices. We will have Modified, JV, and Varsity Volleyball and Basketball, Modified and Varsity Wrestling, Varsity Indoor Track, and a Varsity Boys’ Hockey combination with Syracuse City Schools.

The question sometimes arises about advanced placement in athletics or “playing up” as 7th or 8th graders. Please remember that playing up requires a process which should start with a coach determining that a player is physically able and skilled enough to play at a higher level than their peers. The coach would speak with the respective parents to see if there is interest from the student athlete. Then, one or both parties would approach the athletic office and request the paperwork and schedule a physical test for advanced placement. There are many hands involved in properly classifying an underclassman for JV or Varsity level sports. This process can take weeks and if it is something that you are interested in but have questions about please feel free to contact the athletic office so that we may assist you.

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Homecoming Highlights
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Annual Holiday Extravaganza

Craft & Vendor Show

Nedrow Fire Dept
6505 South Salina Street
Saturday, October 27th
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Over 80 Crafters and Vendors on hand for you to pick out that perfect gift!

Raffles & Food

For more info, email nedrowauxiliary@gmail.com