

SPRING 2025 NEWSLETTER

VALEDICTORIAN



**DESHEA
LETT SOME**

#TRADITION NEVER GRADUATES

CLASS OF
2025



Onondaga
Central Schools

SALUTATORIAN



**HANNAH
SCHULTZ**

OCS Presents 2025 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

OCS is proud to present the valedictorian, Deshea Lettsome, and the salutatorian, Hannah Schultz, for the class of 2025.

Lettsome is the daughter of Tara Carter-Lettsome and Deshea Lettsome. She will graduate with a cumulative and weighted grade point average of 100.21. Lettsome earned this impressive grade point average while completing a rigorous program of study. She will earn four credits from Syracuse University Project Advance, 12 credits from Tompkins Cortland Community College and 22 credits from Onondaga Community College. She earned qualifying scores of five on AP World History and four on AP United States History. In May 2025, she challenged the AP Government and Politics exam. Lettsome was also the recipient of the University of Rochester Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award.

Lettsome is also active in the school community. She is President of Drama Club and Spanish Club, Vice President of the Class of 2025, Treasurer of Key Club, Secretary of GSA, Treasurer of Yearbook Club and a member of Student Council and Jazz Band. She has been a member of numerous Varsity Athletic teams, including indoor & outdoor track, softball, volleyball and soccer. She was also voted captain of the Varsity Volleyball team during her senior year. Lettsome auditioned and qualified for All-County Chorus during her junior and senior year and Area All-State her senior year.

In the fall, Lettsome will study Computer Science while minoring in Spanish and Music at William & Mary College.

Hannah Schultz is the daughter of Margaret and David Schultz. She has earned a weighted and cumulative grade point average of 98.35. She has earned six credits from SUNY Oswego, 12 credits from Tompkins Cortland Community College and 16 credits from Onondaga Community College. She earned qualifying scores of 5 on the AP World History exam and 4 on the AP United States History exam. She challenged the AP Government and Politics exam in May 2025.

Schultz is a member of the Varsity Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field team, where she served as team captain. She is a member of the Varsity Soccer Team, German Club and National Honor Society. This year, she is Vice President of the Varsity Club. Although she does not hold an office position for her class, she volunteers countless hours to help raise funds. She also finds time to volunteer with her church. She has filled roles such as childcare assistant and Vacation Bible School Counselor.

In the fall, she will study Engineering at Bucknell University.

Congratulations to the entire class of 2025. We are proud of your accomplishments and wish you the best of luck. You will be missed.



Onondaga
Central Schools

SCAN FOR
OCS CALENDAR



Letter from the Superintendent

Dear OCS Community,

As we bring the 2024–2025 school year to a close, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your continued support, partnership and dedication to our schools. This year has been filled with meaningful learning, growth and achievement—and it would not have been possible without the collaboration of our entire community.

Congratulations to the Class of 2025. We celebrate not just your graduation, but the culmination of years of hard work, growth and remarkable achievements within our school community. Each of you has contributed to the vibrant spirit of OCS, and we couldn't be prouder to see you embark on your next chapter.

As you step forward, remember the lessons learned, the friendships forged and the support system that will always be here for you at OCS. We are confident that you possess the skills, integrity and drive to achieve great things. We wish you all the very best in your future endeavors. You will always be a cherished part of the OCS family.



To our families and community partners, thank you for trusting us and working alongside us to ensure our students have the resources, encouragement and opportunities they need to thrive. To our staff and faculty, your commitment to excellence, innovation and care is the heartbeat of our schools. And to our students, thank you for showing up each day ready to learn, grow and contribute to a positive school culture. You inspire us with your energy, creativity and resilience.

I want to extend my sincere thanks for your support in passing the 2025–2026 school budget. Your commitment ensures that we can continue to grow and strengthen our educational programs, maintain small class sizes, support the arts and provide enriching opportunities for all students. This budget represents more than just numbers, it reflects our shared dedication to academic excellence and student success.

As we look ahead to the 2025–2026 school year, we are excited to build on the successes of this past year and continue strengthening the academic and social foundations of our students. One of the most significant changes on the horizon involves a new statewide law enacted by New York State that prohibits the use of internet-enabled personal devices in schools. This legislation is designed to minimize distractions, enhance student focus and foster more meaningful in-person interactions throughout the school day.

In response, the Onondaga Central Board of Education, in collaboration with district staff, is developing a policy that aligns with this new law. The policy will include clear guidelines restricting the use of smartphones, smartwatches, personal tablets and laptops capable of internet access during school hours. The goal is to create a more focused, safe and supportive learning environment while reducing opportunities for cyberbullying and other online disruptions.

We recognize that technology has an important place in education, but we also acknowledge the growing concerns around the excessive use of internet-enabled devices among young people. With the support of parents, guardians and our dedicated staff, this policy aims to help students become more engaged in their learning and relationships at school and at home. Too often, these devices have replaced meaningful interactions with parents, siblings and peers. By setting thoughtful boundaries, we are working together to re-center human connection and learning in our schools. To read the proposed policy and the presentation from the public hearing scan this link:



We recognize that this transition may be challenging for many, which is why our partnership will be essential. Together, we can help our students adapt and thrive. We appreciate your continued support as we take this important step forward for the well-being and success of all our students. Please let us know if you have any questions by emailing or calling us.

Thank you once again for a wonderful year. I wish you a safe, restful and joyful summer.

Rob Price
Rob Price,
Superintendent of Schools



OCS Students Recognized for Language Proficiency

On April 28, Hannah Schultz was honored by the German-American Society of Central New York at the Syracuse Turners for her outstanding effort in German, earning a financial scholarship to help offset future college costs.

Emanuel LaMacchia, Melissa Sanborn, Olivia Bloom, Alaina Kelsey and Madelyn Schultz were also recognized for their outstanding efforts in German. The German-American Society of CNY gives out thousands of dollars each year to local seniors who have continued to study German up until graduation. One of their biggest fundraisers of the year, Oktoberfest, takes place during the fall, so keep an eye out for that at the beginning of next school year.

During the evening, local teachers of German, German students and members of the German-American community enjoyed a German meal, live music, dancing and speeches given by the award recipients. More information about the German-American Society, volunteering for the Oktoberfest or donating to the scholarship fund can be obtained through contacts Sally Frenza at sallyfz@aol.com or Herr Solan the OCS Jr./Sr. High German teacher at csolan@onondagacsd.org.



Nine OCS Students Achieve NYS Seal of Biliteracy

Nine Onondaga Senior High students took the opportunity to present their culminating projects in an attempt to earn the NYS Seal of Biliteracy this spring.

This great honor is awarded to students who complete several months of research and preparation, then present and defend their work in Spanish or German. Hundreds of kids from across Onondaga County participated in this event hosted by OCM BOCES; with OCS out participating many of the larger districts in the county. Six German students and three Spanish students, all pictured above from left to right, Alaina Kelsey, Olivia Bloom, Deshea Lettsome, Hannah Schultz, Melissa Sanborn, Madelyn Schultz, Jordan Holley, Emanuel LaMacchia, Jeremiah Hammond and Skylar Smith all worked very hard to complete the project with support and mentoring from several staff members.

It truly takes a village to get these students ready to present. Mr. and Mrs. Solan would like to thank every mentor, administrator and our amazing librarian Mrs. Pristash for all of the support you have given us and our students over the years.



Wheeler Elementary Presents Finding Nemo Jr.

Wheeler Elementary students worked hard to put on a fantastic production of Finding Nemo Jr. Theater offers students a multitude of benefits, encompassing skill development, personal growth and creative exploration. It fosters confidence, communication, teamwork and empathy, while also enhancing imagination and problem-solving abilities.



Wheeler Elementary Students Surpass Reading Challenge Goal

Wheeler Elementary celebrated an extraordinary accomplishment as students surpassed their ambitious goal of 50,000 minutes of reading time. This milestone was marked with a day full of excitement and inspiration, featuring special guests and memorable activities.

Former OCS stars Mike Hart, Latavius Murray and their friend Eric Devendorf joined the celebration, bringing energy and encouragement to the students. During recess, the athletes interacted with the students, shared uplifting messages and participated in games.

The day culminated in a school-wide assembly where top readers were recognized for their achievements. Students also had the opportunity to win incredible prizes, including autographed jerseys from Hart, Murray and Devendorf. The athletes also made a visit to Rockwell Elementary morning program.

The event showcased Wheeler Elementary's commitment to fostering a love for reading and building a strong community spirit. Congratulations to all the students for their hard work and dedication.



Thank You to Our Retiring Staff

We wish these incredible OCS team members well as they start a new chapter. Thank you for all of your years at OCS, serving our community.

Warren Smith
7 years

Kevin Harmatuk
10 years

Patricia Rohe
15 years *

Ronald (Skip) Harris
16.25 years

Nancy Dalley
23.7 years

Kristen (Abbott) Adsitt
29.4 years *

Sheryl Sonnacchio
30 years *

John Miller
30 years *

Steve James
32 years *

Teresa (Sue) Madden
45 years

* staff members featured in photograph

☆ ☆ HONOR ROLL ☆ ☆

12TH GRADE

Abbott, John
Adams, Sylvana*
Bellinger, Jaiden
Bennett, Tyson*
Bloom, Olivia*
Cheek, Jordan*
Chen, Cindy*
Cousineau, Daelyn*
Cruz, Adan*
Davis, Gabrielle*
Davis, Olivia
Fikes, Lindsay*
Foster, Helena*
Garafolo, Kaydee*
Grady, Sahara
Grenton, LaJada*
Hammond, Bryan*
Hayes, Lina*
Holley, Jordan*
Hollister Jr., Damon
Hunter, II, David*
Job, Savannah
Kelsey, Alaina*
LaMacchia, Emanuel*
Lettsome, Deshea*
Mango, Evylena*
Mattox, Aliyah*
Morman, Amieya*
Recor, Jesse
Robinson, Candace*
Rodriguez, Jacob
Rodriguez, Keahra*
Sanborn, Melissa*
Schmidt, Mackenzie*
Schultz, Hannah*
Schultz, Leah*
Schultz, Madelyn*
Smith, Skylar*
Sutton, Seamus*

Taylor, Jasmine*
Thousand III, Richard*
Toomey, John
Troch, Ryan*
Vincent, Jadin*
Volles, Jacob*
Welch, John
Yemma, Maddox*

11TH GRADE

Andino, Carolyn*
Boyer, Sydney*
Brasket, Avery*
Braun, Jacob
Brown, Maxwell*
Burton, Jack*
Cannon V, Johnny
Carter, Amillia
Cox, MacKenna*
Cox, Sydney*
Crews, Alex*
Doner, Nathan*
Fordyce, Kaleigha
Hall, Aaron*
Hill, Tessa*
Mahoney, Grace
Mayoral, Brysen
Mckee, Tucker
Miller, Madilynn*
Mohamed, Emily
Montulli, Antonio*
Morris, Aiden
Morris, Nolan
Moses, Justin*
Mulligan, Riley*
Nett, Benjamin*
Palacios Ramirez, Yoselin
Pierce Jr., David*
Prokopchuk, Vasyi
Urbas, Joshua*

Victoriano, Ryan*
Wilhelm, Zachary
Wright IV, Howard*
Young, Christopher*

10TH GRADE

Burton, Jacob
Donze, Amani*
Doshna, Olivia
Fiaschetti, Sydney
Frazier, Mariana*
Freyer, Abigail*
Gabriel, Jr. Raun*
Gomez Mejia, Mayerli*
Haines, Tyler*
Hantke, Logan*
Hourigan, Theodore*
Hughes, William*
Hunter, Trevor*
Johnson-Cathers, Jadore
Keane, Jayden*
Knapp, Madison*
Knittel, Derrick
Kobasa, Lyla
Luton, Reed*
Mackey, Analeigh*
Marsh, Kendal*
Mattison, Bryce
Mayotte-Woods, Kaleb
McCoy, Knoll*
Miller Jr., Sean*
Murphy, Brian
O'Dell, Addison*
Pierce, Grace*
Rhyant, Emalie*
Ryan, Jesse
Smith Jr., Jamere*
Spencer, Adeline*
Spies, Anna*
Spies, Lena*

Szabo, Madison
Wright, Zanai*
Zarnowski, Isabella

9TH GRADE

Allen, Lucas
Barbuto, Macie*
Bowens, Quan'Dai
Boyer, Zachary*
Carter, Jordyn
Clarke, Kevanie*
Cummings, Colton*
Dixie, Gavin*
Dixie, Logan
Gemmell, James*
Hennigan, Rose
Hill, Jakari*
Hill, Jorden*
Lasinski, Francesca*
Lehmann, Jackson*
Mumford, Ella*
Powell, Ian*
Roundtree, Isabella
Searle, Brooklyn*
Smorol, Cooper*
Spieker, Aiden
Steepprock, Tucker*
Toro, Ariana*
Wadsworth, Jacob*

8TH GRADE

Andino, Rosemarie*
Burns, Quinn
Charette, Arlena
Conners, Jameson
Corrente, Paul*
Cruz Pagan, Nayanis*
Donaghy, Kaelyn*
Fikes, Emily*
Finlay, Aden
Foster, Alexandra*

Greene, Violet*
Hass, Hunter
Hourigan, Andrew
Hourigan, Brayden
Hourigan, Taylor*
Hughes, Gianna
Kallfelz, Aubrey*
Kelsey, Avery*
Kelsey, Jacob*
Kelsey, Nicholas
Kgalemang, Teto*
King, Carson*
Kobasa, Ryan*
Kyslyak, Illia*
Lettsome, Ella*
Marhelis, Preston
Massey, Damian*
Meah, Shahriaz*
Moore, August*
Mulligan, Madison*
Patterson, Sean
Pierce, Allison*
Polge, Anthony*
Pulver, Nathan*
Relles, Coralena*
Richardson, Dashawn
Ryan, Madison*
Sanders, Zion*
Scheve, Lillian*
Shepherd, Nevaeh*
Shute, Addison
Spencer, Colton*
Tkachenko, David
Welch, Miles*

* = Indicates High Honor Roll



STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

National Honor Society inductees are Carolyn Andino, Sydney Boyer, MacKenna Cox, Sydney Cox, Madilynn Miller and Riley Mulligan.

National Junior Honor Society inductees are Macie Barbuto, Kevanie Clarke, Colton Cummings, James Gemmell, Jorden Hill, Francesca Lasinski, Ella Mumford, Ian Powell, Brooklyn Searle, Cooper Smorol and Ariana Toro.



OCS Academic Letter Ceremony Honors Students

Congratulations to the following students who were honored at our Academic Letter Ceremony this year.

Grade 9

Jadon Buchanan
Amani Donze
Sydney Fiaschetti
Olivia Fox
Mariana Frazier
Abigail Freyer
Tyler Haines
Theodore Hourigan
Trevor Hunter
Madison Knapp
Reed Luton
Kendal Marsh
Bryce Mattison
Knoll McCoy
Sean Miller, Jr

Addison O'Dell
Grace Pierce
Adeline Spencer
Anna Spies
Lena Spies
Mason Stacy
Zanai Wright

Grade 10

Carolyn Andino
Sydney Boyer
Avery Brasket
Mackenna Cox
Sydney Cox
Alex Crews
Nathan Doner

Kaleigha Fordyce
Tessa Hill
Grace Mahoney
Madilynn Miller
Justin Moses
Riley Mulligan
Benjamin Nett
David Pierce Jr.
Howard Wright IV

Grade 11

Sylvana Adams
Olivia Bloom
Evan Catarisano
Jordan Cheek
Cindy Chen

Daelyn Cousineau
Adan Cruz
Gabrielle Davis
Ella Donath
Lindsay Fikes
Kaydee Garafalo
Sahara Grady
LaJada Grenton
Bryan Hammond
Lina Hayes
David Hunter, II
Emanuel LaMacchia
Deshea Lettsome
Evylena Mango
Hayly Martinez Figueroa
Aliyah Mattox

Liam McCullough
Amieya Morman
Keahra Rodriguez
Melissa Sanborn
Mackenzie Schmidt
Hannah Schultz
Leah Schultz
Madelyn Schultz
Skylar Smith
Seamus Sutton
John Toomey
Jasmine Taylor
John Toomey
Jadin Vincent
Jacob Volles
John Welch



Katie Erwin
Rockwell Elementary Recess Monitor

NEW TEAM MEMBER IN ROCKWELL ELEMENTARY

We'd like to welcome a new Onondaga Central School District team member to our district!



SENIORS CELEBRATE DURING ANNUAL SENIOR BREAKFAST

The senior breakfast is an Onondaga time-honored tradition, filled with laughter, reflection and celebration, marking a significant milestone in the lives of the graduating seniors.



Fire Club Visits the 174th Attack Wing

Fire Club had the opportunity to visit the 174th Attack Wing, where students engaged in hands-on displays showcasing the daily operations of the base.

During the visit, students met with dedicated airmen who provided insights into the operational readiness and capabilities of the MQ-9 Reaper. They were warmly welcomed by both pilots and base personnel, who shared their experiences and expertise. A special debriefing from the 274th ASOS (Air Force Special Operations) allowed students to delve deeper into the role of JTAC (Joint Terminal Attack Controllers) troops, highlighting the important work they do.

The experience was further enriched as students had the chance to utilize flight simulators and observe satellite communications, infrared and night vision capabilities of the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV). Additionally, they toured the on-base Air Force ARFF (Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting) units and military security forces.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the men and women of the Air Force Air National Guard who contributed to making this a memorable and educational experience for our students.



ROCKWELL ELEMENTARY STUDENTS BUILD COORDINATION THROUGH VOLLEYBALL SKILLS IN PE

Rockwell Elementary students showcased their energy and enthusiasm as they honed their volleying skills during physical education classes. Under the guidance of dedicated PE instructors, the young athletes practiced coordination, teamwork and focus through engaging, creative and fun activities designed to develop their volleying techniques.



ROCKWELL STUDENTS BUILD CONNECTIONS WITH SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

Students at Rockwell Elementary had the opportunity to meet and engage with their School Resource Officer (SRO) this week, strengthening the bond between law enforcement and the school community. The event provided a platform for students to learn about the vital role of the SRO while fostering a sense of trust and approachability.

During the visit, students asked questions, shared stories and participated in interactive activities designed to deepen their understanding of the SRO's role in promoting school safety and community well-being.



Moments from the Baltimore Woods Opening Reception

The turnout was amazing—a packed room full of proud families, friends and art enthusiasts.

Our talented students from Jackie Passetti's classes, Kim Beckeman's classes and Melissa Ryan's Rockwell & Wheeler classes had their incredible artwork showcased in the Baltimore Woods Nature Center's annual May exhibition, celebrating the creativity and talent of young artists in our community.

OCS Student Artwork Featured:

- » *"Theo's Portrait"* by Madison Szabo, Grade 10
- » *"Red Gondola"* by Benjamin Nett, Grade 11
- » *"Mushrooms"* by Lilyann Ziebarth, Grade 11
- » *"Nymph Protecting the Woods"* by Sylvana Adams, Grade 12
- » *"Butterfly Jar"* by Riley Mulligan, Grade 11
- » *"Frog Jar"* by Quan'Dai Bowens, Grade 9



ONONDAGA JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL BAND AND CHORAL HIGHLIGHTS FROM FINAL PERFORMANCES OF THE YEAR

The final concerts of the year were a resounding success, with Mrs. Coogan's and Mr. Meyer's students delivering a stunning performance. We also celebrated our talented seniors.

MELODIES OF SPRING: WHEELER ELEMENTARY'S CONCERT SHINES BRIGHT

The students at Wheeler Elementary hit all the right notes at their incredible spring concert. A huge round of applause to these talented performers for sharing their hard work and beautiful music with us.



Seniors Earn Academic Awards

Senior Tigers earned academic accolades during an end-of-the-year ceremony. The S.E.A.C. Award, Student of Exceptional Academic Commitment was distributed to Olivia Bloom, Jordan Cheek, Deshea Lettsome, Keahra Rodriguez, Melissa Sanborn, Hannah Schultz, Jadin Vincent, Lindsay Fikes and Madelyn Schultz.

Each year Presidential Education Awards for Outstanding Academic Excellence are presented to the top 5% of the graduating class who have earned a cumulative average of at least A- in their academic courses as well as above average scores on the SAT and/or ACT examinations. This year's recipients are: Jacob Volles, Miles Parker, Amieya Morman, Leah Schultz, Ella Donath, Lina Hayes, David Hunter II, Kaydee Garafolo, Gabrielle Davis, LaJada Grenton, Evylena Mango, Sylvana Adams, Sahara Grady, Cindy Chen, Lindsay Fikes, Madelyn Schultz, Olivia Bloom, Jordan Cheek, Skylar Smith, Mackenzie Schmidt, Melissa Sanborn, Keahra Rodriguez, Emanuel LaMacchia, Jadin Vincent, Hannah Schultz and Deshea Lettsome.

The Triple "C" Award is a certificate awarded to New York State graduates in recognition of their outstanding character, courage and commitment to school and community. This award is given by Letitia James, New York State Attorney General. This year's recipients are Sylvanna Adams and Olivia Davis.

The Civic Ambassador Award is a certificate awarded to a New York State Graduate who has demonstrated a passion for and knowledge of civics and government. This award is given by Letitia James, New York State Attorney General. This year's recipient is Jordan Cheek.

Deshea Lettsome and Emanuel LaMacchia earned the Scholar Athlete of the Year Award. Lettsome also earned the Bausch & Lomb Science Award.

The New York State Comptroller's Student Achievement Awards are presented each year to students who have excelled academically and have also shown leadership potential by volunteering their time to serve the school or the community. Comptroller DiNapoli sends his sincere congratulations to LaJada Grenton and his best wishes to the graduating class of 2025.

Since 1974, Nucor Corporation has awarded \$133 million dollars to 27,645 students attending 2,746 colleges and universities throughout the United States. This year, 856 students will receive awards including Jaiden Bellinger. Bellinger will receive the Educational Disbursement Award which pays up to \$4,000 a year for up to 4 years. She plans to attend SUNY Morrisville studying Exercise Science. Her father Patrick, has been a Nucor teammate for 3.5 years.

Nucor congratulates Bellinger and the graduating Class of 2025 of Onondaga High School.



OCS Participates in Feats of Clay

OCS had an amazing showing at the 36th Annual Feats of Clay at the Everson Museum. Six students had their work accepted into the juried exhibit. 19 students participated in the competition - doubling the number of attendees from the previous year. Students competed in exciting challenges like mug production, no-hands throwing and tower building, showcasing their creativity and teamwork.



Onondaga High School Ceramics Students Bring Fourth-Graders' Imagination to Life

Onondaga Jr./Sr. High School's ceramics class recently partnered with fourth-graders at Wheeler Elementary to create a heartwarming and imaginative project. The high school students transformed the younger students' creative monster drawings into stunning 3D ceramic sculptures, merging artistic skill with youthful imagination.

This unique collaboration began when the fourth-graders were tasked with drawing their dream monsters as part of a creative exercise. These colorful and whimsical designs were then handed over to the ceramics class, where high school students worked meticulously to replicate the details

in clay. Each sculpture reflected the originality and vision of the young artists, capturing their creativity in tangible form.

After weeks of work shaping, glazing and firing the sculptures, the high school students visited Wheeler Elementary to present their creations. The delivery day was filled with joy and excitement as the fourth-graders eagerly compared their drawings to the lifelike monsters.

The initiative not only celebrated artistic expression but also fostered a sense of mentorship and connection between the older and younger students, strengthening the bond within the school community.



7th Grade Students Showcase Artistic Talent with Synthwave-Inspired Landscapes

The seventh-grade art students at OCS made waves—synthwaves, to be exact! Recently, they completed a unique project showcasing their understanding of one-point perspective drawing, resulting in vibrant, futuristic landscapes inspired by the popular “synthwave” aesthetic.

Under the guidance of their art instructor, students learned how to use converging and parallel lines to create depth and dimension in their artwork. This foundational skill in perspective drawing was then applied to design imaginative, sci-fi-inspired settings that are as technically precise as they are visually striking.



Soleful Creativity in Painting & Drawing 1

OCS talented Painting & Drawing 1 students recently wrapped up their Mixed Media Shoe Paintings. They crafted stunning collage backgrounds using pages from discarded books, old sheet music and tissue paper.

After snapping reference photos of their own shoes, they brought them to life with acrylic paint, focusing on details, shadows and highlights.

OCS | ATHLETICS RECAP

BOYS BASEBALL - VARSITY

The OCS Varsity Baseball team faced a lot of adversity this season and finished the regular season with a 4-11 record. There's a lot of work to do in order for us to reach our goals, but we're making strides in the right direction. Thank you to our lone senior, John Toomey. Regardless of the circumstances, he gave his best for the TEAM. Toomey's passion and commitment to our program will be deeply missed.



BOYS BASEBALL - MODIFIED (7TH - 9TH GRADE)

It was a wet and wild spring for the modified baseball team. Despite facing one of the rainiest seasons in recent memory, the boys made the most of every opportunity to play. Through countless rescheduled practices and soggy fields, they stayed focused, learned a lot and—most importantly—had a great time. At the time of this writing, the team boasts an impressive 4-1 record with three games remaining in the season. Rain or shine, it's been a memorable spring on the diamond. Coaches Bort and Cormier could not be more proud of the growth, effort and positive attitude each player has shown throughout the season.

GIRLS SOFTBALL - VARSITY

The varsity softball team was on fire this season, finishing with an overall record of 12-2 with only 1 loss in the regular season. The team was 8-0 in league play, winning the league and having 8 players receive all-league awards. Kaidence Cronin- Pitcher/Player of the year. Jaiden Bellinger, Aubrie Jones and Mya Stafford- first team all-league. Chevelle Cronin and Adaybria Edwards- second team all-league. Ellyse Thompson and Kennedy Harmatuk- Honorable mention. The team wrapped up the season ranked #17 in the state.



GIRLS SOFTBALL - JUNIOR VARSITY

The combined JV team demonstrated remarkable unity and camaraderie at a crucial time, overcoming cancellations and reschedules to maximize their practice sessions. Each player showed considerable improvement by playing multiple positions, contributing to the team's overall success as they concluded the season with an impressive record of 8-2.

GIRLS SOFTBALL - MODIFIED (7TH - 8TH GRADE)

The modified softball team has shown tremendous improvement throughout the season. The girls have been working on key traits to a successful team including being good teammates, supporting one another, being leaders and working on applying feedback to help them grow. A highlight of the season was beating Tully on their home field.

TRACK AND FIELD - MODIFIED (7TH - 8TH GRADE)

The modified track team has experienced a successful season thus far. With only two meets remaining at the time of this writing, we have witnessed numerous personal records being set throughout the season. This team has excelled in field events at every meet, frequently achieving a sweep of the top three standings in most events. We have a total of 14 student-athletes from OCS and 8 from Lafayette, making this one of the largest modified track teams in recent years.

TRACK AND FIELD - VARSITY

Both the girls and boys varsity track team went undefeated this season, capturing league titles. At the league championship, they won 7 individual events and 2 relays to earn first-team all-league honors. In the upcoming weeks at the time of this writing, they will compete in the class championship and the state qualifier with the hopes of advancing to the state championship. Much of their success can be attributed to the 21 seniors who inspire and assist our younger athletes.



TENNIS

Tennis had a great turnout of enthusiastic players, including both experienced players and newcomers. Fourteen young men and women joined the ranks this year, with several returning starters. The four young women returning were all seniors and will all be missed. Although it was a very challenging season playing well-experienced, year-round players, the Tigers did finish their season with two wins in a row! With summer camp opportunities, expect the tennis team to come back stronger than ever. Mr. Miller would like to thank all his former players for the many great memories over the years.



GIRLS LACROSSE

Another great season is in the books for the Southern Hills girls lacrosse program, led by standout senior captain Aliyah Mattox. The team continued to show growth and competitiveness throughout the season, earning recognition across the league.

Five student-athletes were named to the all-league team, in a very competitive league. Aliyah Mattox capped off her high school career with an impressive 45 goals and 23 assists, demonstrating both scoring power and leadership on the field. While the Storm fell short in the playoffs, the future looks bright. With a strong core of younger talent returning, Southern Hills is confident to continue its upward trajectory in the seasons to come.



Onondaga Central Youth Wrestling: A Season of Growth and Triumph

The mats have been rolled up, and the final whistles have blown on another exciting season of Onondaga Central Youth Wrestling. This year witnessed remarkable growth and dedication from all our young athletes, who consistently demonstrated a commitment to improvement in every aspect of the sport.

From our youngest K-6 grapplers to our Modified and Varsity teams, each wrestler showcased impressive development throughout the season. We saw incredible strides in mastering new wrestling techniques, pushing physical limits through enhanced conditioning and cultivating the mental fortitude necessary to compete at a high level. The progress displayed by these young athletes is a testament to their hard work, perseverance and the guidance of their dedicated coaches.

To celebrate their achievements and dedication, several wrestlers were recognized with special awards at the end-of-season gathering. The **Eye of the Tiger Award**, recognizing unwavering spirit and determination, was presented to deserving wrestlers at the K-6, Modified and Varsity levels: Ruby McCoy, Jamison Orr, McCoy Tartaglia, Marlin McCoy, Callahan Orr, Owen Sauter, Lillian Pulver, Shane Nelson (modified) and Knoll McCoy (varsity).

In addition, we proudly awarded:

- » **Certificates of Recognition** to our graduating 6th grade wrestlers as they prepare for the next level.
- » **Participation Awards** to all wrestlers, acknowledging their commitment and effort throughout the season.
- » **Most Outstanding Wrestler** award to Lillian Pulver, celebrating exceptional performance and skill.
- » The **Fastest Pin Award**, recognizing lightning-quick victories on the mat to Jordan Pulver.
- » The **Sportsmanship Award**, honoring those who exemplified respect, integrity and fair play, to Jordan Pulver.
- » The **Most Improved Wrestler** award, acknowledging significant progress and dedication to development, to Amelia Doshna.

The success of our wrestling program would not be possible without the tireless efforts of our volunteer coaching staff. Their expertise, mentorship and unwavering support have been instrumental in the growth and achievements of our young wrestlers. We extend our deepest gratitude to each and every coach for their dedication and commitment.

Furthermore, we want to express our sincere appreciation to the parents and guardians who have provided invaluable support throughout the season. Your encouragement, transportation, donations, and unwavering belief in our student-athletes have played a crucial role in their success.



Celebrating Athletic Senior Nights



SCHOLAR ATHLETES

VARSITY TRACK GPA 91.24

Kevanie Clark
Adan Cruz
Colton Cummings
Gabrielle Davis
Alexandra Foster
James Gemmell
Lajada Grenton
Tyler Haines
Bryan Hammond
Damon Hollister jr
Alaina Kelsey
Emanuel LaMacchia
Deshea Lettsome
Reed Luton

Kendal Marsh
Benjamin Nett
Emalie Rhyant
Keahra Rodriguez
Mackenzie Schmidt
Madelyn Schultz
Leah Schultz
Hannah Schultz
Skylar Smith
Zanai Wright
Howard Wright IV

GIRLS LACROSSE GPA 91.72

Aliyah Mattox

BOYS LACROSSE GPA 91.92

Raun Gabriel

VARSITY BASEBALL GPA 92.12

Max Brown
Nathan Doner
Knoll McCoy
Sean Miller
Antonio Montulli
David Pierce
Cooper Smorol
Ryan Victoriano

VARSITY SOFTBALL GPA 92.30

Deshea Lettsome

VARSITY TENNIS GPA 93.83

Lucas Allen
Olivia Bloom
Gavin Dixie
Illia Kyslyak
Jackson Lehmann
Evy Mango
Ian Powell
Vasyl Prokopchuk
Melissa Sanborn
Jasmine Taylor
Jacob Wadsworth



TRACK GOES TO STATES

Keahra Rodriguez scored a 18'9.5 in long jump (a new school record!!) and hit 39'3 in triple jump. Congratulations to Rodriguez and Emanuel LaMacchia pictured here with their class medals.



Onondaga Jr./Sr. High School Presents Senior Athletics Awards

Onondaga Jr./Sr. High School hosted a ceremony where the following athletes were presented awards.

The Earl Fletcher Sportsmanship Award was presented to:

- » Jeremiah Hammond
- » Madelyn Schultz

The A-1 Trophy Award was presented to:

- » John Toomey
- » Hannah Schultz

This year's Varsity Club Distinguished Athlete Award went to:

- » Jesse Recor
- » Ella Donath

The recipients of the Barb Olson Competitive Spirit Award were:

- » Damon Hollister
- » Gabrielle Davis

The Comeback Athlete of the Year Award was presented to:

- » John Welch
- » Aliyah Mattox

The Onondaga Athletics Perseverance Award, presented to two student-athletes who have shown that they refuse to quit in the face of adversity, was presented to:

- » Ryan Troch
- » Jaiden Bellinger

The Section III scholar athlete award was presented to two seniors who were both stellar athletes in their respective sports while excelling in the classroom at the same time:

- » Emanuel LaMacchia
- » Deshea Lettsome

The Most Outstanding Award is presented to an athlete that has participated in multiple and diverse sports and has been awarded all league status for performance or recognized by a committee of opposing coaches. These individuals are often regarded as assistant coaches for the leadership qualities that they possess:

- » Emanuel LaMacchia
- » Keahra Rodriguez



Track Team OHSL Champions

The undefeated boys and girls track teams won 9 league titles this spring, and the girls won the overall competition. League Champions were:

- » Emanuel LaMacchia - 400 Intermediate Hurdles
- » Jeremiah Hammond - Discus
- » Brielle Nels - 100 and 200 meter races
- » Kearha Rodriguez - Long Jump and Triple Jump
- » Emalie Rhyant - High Jump
- » Hannah Schultz, Gabby Davis, Kearha Rodriguez, Brielle Nels - 4x100 relay
- » Madelyn Schultz, Kennedy Harmak, Claire Zehner, Brielle Nels - 4x400 relay

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CONGRATULATIONS TO OCS SECTIONAL SCHOLAR ATHLETES

Onondaga Jr./Sr. High School celebrates Section 3 scholar-athletes:
Deshea Lettsome and Emanuel LaMacchia

Lettsome competed in indoor track, soccer, softball, outdoor track and field and volleyball. Her parents are Tara Carter-Lettsome and Deshea Lettsome. After high school, she plans to attend the College

of William and Mary. LaMacchia competed in cross country, indoor track and outdoor track and field. His mother is Schelly LaMacchia. After high school, he will be attending the University of Rochester.

OCS is proud of these students for their dedication and hard work in the classroom and in athletics.



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