



Superintendent's Message

The end of the school year is approaching quickly with just several weeks until graduation. I am excited for the end of the school year. We were able to experience a more normal year, which we all needed. We, as a community, have done a great job navigating the pandemic guidance and protocols from our state and local leaders.

We have had many indoor and outdoor events this year that were really nice to experience again! We are looking forward to the spring athletic contests, musical performances, and academic celebrations. To highlight our new track, we are hosting a track and field invitational on April 29th rumored to be the first or the first in a very long time. The 2022 graduation will take place as planned as an outdoor ceremony on June 24, 2022, on the front lawn of the Jr./Sr. High School.

This summer, we have more renovations happening in Phase two of the Capital Project. The work we will complete this summer will encompass finishing up renovations to the Jr/Sr High School auditorium sound system, and wall finishes, and corridor ceilings refresh. At Wheeler ES, there will be an upgrade to the Library ...continued on page 10

Valedictorian and Co-Salutatorians Announced



Sophia Myer, valedictorian The valedictorian for the class of 2022 is **Sophia Myer**. She is the daughter of Julie and Matthew Myer. She will graduate with a cumulative and weighted grade point average of 100.30. Sophia completed a program of study comprised of honors, college and Advanced Placement courses. She will graduate with 20 credits from Tompkins Cortland Community College, 22 college credits from Onondaga Community College. Sophia has also challenged every AP course and exam offered at Onondaga. Sophia was a recipient of the Bausch & Lomb Science Award from the University of Rochester.

Sophia is a three-sport varsity athlete. She is a member of the Varsity Soccer, Indoor Track and Varsity Lacrosse teams at Onondaga. She has been Vice President of the Class of 2022 since her freshmen year, President of the Varsity Club, Secretary of National Honor Society and Key Club. Sophia will study Biology at the University of Rochester in the fall followed by medical school.



Richard Kopp, salutatorian

The class of 2022 will recognize co-salutatorians Richard Kopp and Vanessa Woolery.

Richard Kopp is the son of Nancy Walker-Kopp and Richard Kopp. Richard graduated with a weighted and cumulative grade point average of 98.91. In addition to his numerous honors courses, he earned 12 credits from Tompkins

Cortland Community College, 18 credits from Onondaga Community College and 3 credits from SUNY Oswego. He also earned a qualifying score on the AP World History exam and will challenge the AP Government and Politics exam this May. Richard has competed on the Varsity Soccer team since his sophomore year and is an active member of National Honor Society. Richard also works at Pacsun. His hobbies include golf, skiing, and exercising.

Richard has been accepted to the University at Buffalo, Penn State, University of Miami and will study computer science in the fall.



Vanessa Woolery, salutatorian

Vanessa Woolery is the daughter of Mia and Robert Woolery. Vanessa will graduate with a weighted and cumulative grade point average of 98.91. She will earn 16 credits from Tompkins Cortland Community College and 14 credits from Onondaga Community College. Vanessa earned a qualifying score on the AP United States History exam her junior year and will challenge the AP Government and Politics exam in May 2022.

Vanessa is active with many clubs and activities. She is a member of the Varsity Soccer, Varsity Indoor and Outdoor Track teams. She is Co-President of the Robotics Club, Vice President of National Honor Society and Treasurer of Varsity Club. Outside of school, she is an Open Champion level Irish Dancer for the McDonald School of Irish Dance.

Vanessa will study Elementary Education and plans on running track in college. She is hoping to attend Niagara University in the fall.

ROCKWELL SCHOOL NEWS

Author Celebration

On Monday, April 4th, Ms. Blackmer's class had an author celebration. The students worked very hard on their personal narratives and this was an opportunity for them to show off their writing. The personal narrative is a true story about something meaningful that has happened in the child's life. Team Blackmer decided it would be a great idea to invite other staff members to come. The students wrote many invitations and delivered them to all of the Rockwell staff. The students were so excited to have visitors in the classroom and the staff loved seeing how much the students had grown. Each student's personal narrative was displayed on his or her desk for others to read. Next to their writing piece was a "positive praise pizza" sheet where students and staff could leave comments about the personal narratives. Also, something to mention is there was real pizza! The students used pizza themed graphic organizers throughout the unit to help them with the writing process, so it only seemed fit to have real pizza at the celebration. This wonderful event encouraged these young writers to feel proud of all their hard work. Writing is a challenging but necessary life long skill. It is our hope that these positive experiences stick in the students' memories for a long time!



WHEELER SCHOOL NEWS

Library News

Our Wheeler library is a busy space where students explore their curiosity. Being the school centerpiece of engagement, the space is arranged and rearranged according to project need, curriculum need and the students needs. Our children come to this safe, engaging space for classes, to hang out, to work independently and to come together.

Third grade engaged in a distance learning program called Fraction Hero. Fraction Hero is an over the top Superhero who battles his arch nemesis Captain Irrational! The program teaches fractions in a fun, interactive way. There are three separate sessions for each class. These are: Fractions as Sharing, Fractions on a Number Line, and Comparing Fractions and Equivalence. Children become excited to use manipulatives to better understand fractions. Teachers work closely with their students leading them to the point where they are ready for the program, providing them with all required materials, and

following through after the three sessions. Who knew fractions could be so much fun?

In March Wheeler hosted renowned author and storyteller Regi Carpenter. Regi is the recipient of many awards, including Storytelling World, Parent's Choice, and Parents' Guide to Children's Media Award. Her stories have been featured on Sirius Radio, Apple Seed Radio, The Moth, and NPR. She came to our school to regale us with wonderful interactive stories for everyone. The time with her was magical.

Wheeler enjoyed her so much we had her come back. She was a wonderful guest resident for a delightful after-school program of story-telling and imaginative creation. The program went on twice a week for three weeks. During this time Regi taught students how to listen, engage, write and speak their own stories. Miss Kissane assisted Regi with the children during numerous activities. Learning how to use their faces and bodies as tools in the telling of a story was great fun.

WHEELER SCHOOL NEWS

3rd Grade is K9 Friendly



In ELA class, the third graders have been learning all about teamwork. They focused on how humans and dogs work together to accomplish a common goal. After reading *Rescue Dogs*, a story about the different ways dogs help first

responders, Wheeler's 3rd grade classes had special visitors from a local K9 unit.

On April 5th, Trooper Kevin Connors and K9 Schini stopped by to meet the students and explain what the job of a K9 officer is and why they are so important! Everyone's favorite part of their visit was when they got a chance to pet Schini! Thanks Trooper Connors and K9 Schini.

Kindness Is Beautiful



Mrs. Melissa Ryan (Art teacher) and Wheeler 3rd and 4th grade students recently created a banner in support of Ukraine for the Wheeler lobby. Students, Lucy Fowler and Jordan Hill, assisted with the design of the banner. The Character Ed Club at Wheeler, run by Mrs. Mathieson (grade 3 teacher) and Mrs. McCarthy (grade 4 teacher), made the sunflowers around the banner. In addition, smaller yellow and blue hearts were created by Mrs. Karen Tobin (grade 5 teacher) and placed throughout all three schools. What a beautiful expression of kindness!

Fourth Graders Experience "Colonial Job Fair"



On Friday, March 4th, the fourth grade students at Wheeler School participated in a colonial living museum. The students researched a specific trade from the colonial era. They learned the services provided, the tools used, and the process of their trade. As a culminating project, students took on a role of a tradesperson by dressing the part and creating a representative tool. Parents were invited in to interact with the "tradespeople." There was a great turnout and it was wonderful to have parents back in to visit. Students, families, and staff thoroughly enjoyed this event.

Valentines for Veterans



All of the third grade students at Wheeler wrote letters to the many heroes of our Armed Forces in veteran hospitals throughout the United States. While learning about the parts of a friendly letter, the students wrote to the many men and women

who bravely served to protect our country's freedoms. The letters were then decorated to celebrate Valentine's Day! Some students and classes received wonderful replies and thank yous for remembering to show their appreciation to all who have protected our country.

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Honor Roll / Fourth Marking Period

7th Grade

Abbott, Payton*
Adams, Nih'Jawn
Berger, Genevieve
Buchanan, Jadon*
Burton, Jacob*
Donze, Amani*
Doshna, Olivia
Fox, Olivia*
Frazier, Mariana*
Freyer, Abigail*
Haines, Tyler*
Hantke, Logan*
Hourigan, Theodore*
Hunter, Trevor*
Knapp, Madison*
Kobasa, Lyla*
Leite, Robert*
Luton, Reed*
Marsh, Kendal*
Mattison, Bryce*
McCoy, Knoll*
Miller, Jr., Sean*
Murphy, Brian
Niles, Sydney
O'Dell, Addison*
Peet, Darius*
Pierce, Grace*
Rhyant, Emalie
Smith, Rory*
Spencer, Adeline*
Spies, Anna*
Spies, Lena*
Stacy, Mason*
Szabo, Madison*
Vonderweidt, Arielle*
Zarnowski, Isabella

8th Grade

Andino, Carolyn*
Braun, Jacob
Cox, Mackenna*
Cox, Sydney*
Crews, Alex*

Doner, Nathan
Fordyce, Kaleigha*
Goodman, Samantha*
Halsey, Lyana
Hill, Tessa*
Job, Savannah
King, Anthony
Lettsome, Jayda
Mahoney, Grace*
McBride, Yasmine
McKee, Tucker*
Miller, Madilynn*
Mohamed, Emily
Morris, Nolan*
Moses, Justin
Mulligan, Riley*
Nett, Benjamin*
Pierce Jr., David*
Romano, Autumn
Sanford, Santino*
Steele, Coburn*
Victoriano, Ryan*
Wilhelm, Zachary*

9th Grade

Adams, Sylvana*
Bloom, Olivia*
Catarisano, Evan*
Cheek, Jordan*
Chen, Cindy*
Cruz, Adan
Davis, Gabrielle*
Donath, Ella
Foster, Helena*
Garafolo, Kaydee*
Grady, Sahara*
Grenton, LaJada*
Hammond, Bryan
Hayes, Lina*
Holley, Jordan*
Hunter, II, David
LaMacchia, Emanuel*
Lettsome, Deshea*
Lopez Vasquez, Frankli*
Mango, Evylena

Martinez Figueroa, Hayly*
McCullough, Liam
Mohamed, Jayden
Parker, Miles*
Rodriguez, Keahra*
Sanborn, Melissa*
Schmidt, Mackenzie*
Schultz, Hannah*
Schultz, Leah
Schultz, Madelyn*
Smith, Skylar*
Sutton, Seamus*
Toomey, John
Vincent, Jadin*
Volles, Jacob
Vonderweidt, Callisthene*

10th Grade

Clos, Lindsay*
Coonradt, Lillian
Cutri, Brayden*
Doner, Rory
Fowler, Caleb*
Hourigan, Charlotte*
Hourigan, David
Johnson, Jason
Kahley, Lillian*
Knapp, Delanie*
Kobasa, Devin*
Koslowsky, Emma*
Leite, Lauren*
Maloney, Wyatt*
Martinez Figueroa, Jacqueline*
Morris, Maggieann*
Neuser, Skylar*
Patterson, Jenna
Power, Zoe*
Robinson, Candace*
Slaski, Zackery*
Smith, Shawn
Starkey, Joseph*
Thorpe, Heather*
Urbas, Cailie*
Vasquez Sales, Emily

Vincent, Chesnie*
Walters, Abby
Williams, Jack*

11th Grade

Almaliki, Noor*
Annable, Gavin*
Baxter, Destiny*
Bey, Najeh*
Body, Amber
Chen, Andy*
Corrente, Prudence
Donath, Emma*
Eroh, Lillith*
Frye, Adam
Geis, Jacquelyn*
Hill, Jakiya*
Hill, Jenna
Holl, Kaitlyn*
Jachim, Madison*
Jackson, Shea*
Johnson, Zachary*
Kopp, Julia*
LaMacchia, Hannah*
Lewis, Jesse
Loan, Evelyn*
Lyons, Derek
Mango, Isabella*
Manley, Nehemiha
Massaro, Jonathan*
McIntosh, Samuel*
Merritt, Gavin*
Murphy, Ava*
Neuser, Kendall*
Price, Natalie*
Salim, Hamzah*
Senn, Jarett
Senn, Teresa*
Smith, Makenna*
Spicer, Ava*
Stevens, Lily
Underberg, Jonathan*
Vonderweidt, Andre*
Walker, Brigid*
Wilson, Natalie

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

12th Grade

Abbott, Kaitlyn*
Abert, Jessie*
Alaniz, Cecilia*
Baker, Alexis*
Bennett Jr., Jeffrey*
Bennett, Cody*
Briere, Syanna*
Button, Kayla*
Cousineau, McKenna
Cox, Riley*
Dankiw, Caitlin
Donath, Joslyn*
Eipp, Haley*
Fowler, Ryan*
Francis, Emily*
Fresina, Gianna
Fuentes, Zaidan*
Griskauskas, Corey
Gunter, Kathleen
Hill, Chance
Hirkic, Muamer*
Holl, Nadia*
Holsinger, Morgan*
Hourigan, Coleton*
Isgar, Hanna*
Jacobson, Breanna*
Jaynes, Colin
Kopp, Richard*
Luchsinger, Cooper
Murphy, Alexis*
Myer, Sophia*
Ryan, Aiden*
Shackleton, Amelia*
Strand, Marah*
Taylor, Nickolas*
Timmerman, Emily*
Toomey, Nicholas*
Troch, Natalie
Wood, Jordan*
Woolery, Vanessa*

* Indicates HIGH
Honor Roll

The Tree-Plenish Program

This March, Mr. Mauro's Environmental Club participated in a tree planting program called Tree-Plenish. The goal of the program is to offset



the paper use in the Jr/Sr High by planting saplings. Students calculated that approximately 1.2 million sheets of paper are used each year at the school and that it would take 120 trees to offset the loss of trees to make that much paper. Students and community members purchased 217 saplings to plant this spring crushing the original goal. On April 23rd, students will distribute the saplings and students will also go out to the community and plant some for certain community members that requested that. Students have learned how important trees are to our environment and how important it is to help be a positive force in our community to fight climate change and the loss of trees.

Maple Sugaring Event

On Saturday, March 26th, with a few snowflakes in the air, seven students from Mr. Mauro's Environmental Club and Mrs. Kurucz attended a Maple Sugaring Event hosted by SUNY ESF and the Master Teacher Youth Climate Summit. Along with about 40 other students from around the county they went to Heiberg Forest in Tully to learn about SUNY ESF's maple sugaring process. They learned the process from tapping trees to how the science of an evaporator transforms sap into syrup. Students also attended several workshops hosted by SUNY ESF students and staff on the importance of forest conservation, the effects of climate change on maple trees and the importance of soils in our world. At the end of the day, students came home with a pint of maple syrup produced that day and a handful of wonderful experiences.



Future Police Officer Candidates

The Forensic Science class had Officer Smolen come in to field questions about police work. Students asked excellent questions about crime scenes, required schooling to become a police officer, forensic procedures, personal experiences including favorite and least favorite aspects of the job, and how policing has changed over Officer Smolen's time. He had great responses and students were very appreciative of his willingness to come and answer their questions. It looks like we have some future police officer candidates here at Onondaga! Thank you Officer Smolen!

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Booster Club Fundraiser

The OCS Booster Club is proud to support our students and honor the hard work they do. This year After Prom will be held at Apex. This venue will be a one stop night of entertainment for the students. When After Prom was held at Apex in 2019, we had almost 100% attendance and the students had a great time! We invite you to participate in helping with After Prom. If you are not able to volunteer your time, please help to support this by making a donation to our 2022 After Prom Party. We depend on the generosity of the surrounding community to provide the best opportunities for our children as this is 100% paid for through fundraising by Booster Club and parent and community donations.



If you are able, please make a donation to the OCS Booster Club in any amount. We are a small community, and we understand that COVID-19 has made things tough for everyone, but we would appreciate any help you can give. Let's work together for the kids and still be able to offer those Tiger traditions that previous students have enjoyed. You can advocate for us by sharing our mission with a family member, business or friend. Snap the QR code below to learn more about what we do! Even a quick mention or share on social media would mean the world to us!

Thank you in advance for considering a donation of money and/or your time to this very worthy cause. Any donation can be made payable to OCS Booster Club. You can send or drop your donation off at the OCS Jr Sr High School, Attn: OCS Booster Club, 4479 South Onondaga Rd, Nedrow, 13120. You may also Venmo to @Michelle-Neuser with After prom in notes.

Find us on Facebook: OCS Booster Club

Tiger Strong: The OCS Booster Club

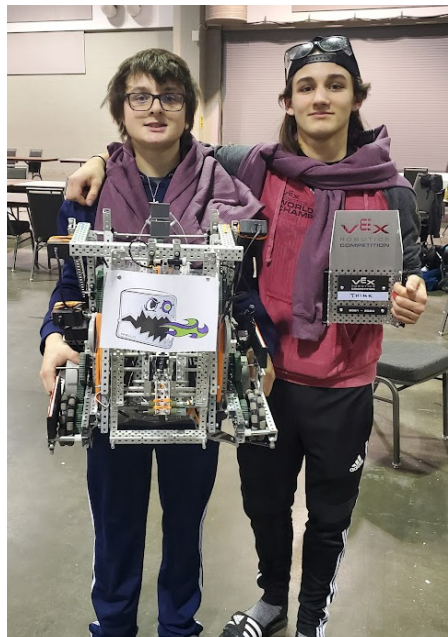
Shelley Neuser – President

Chasity Jaynes – Vice President

Vera Power – Secretary

David Toomey – Treasurer

OCS Robotics Team 2022



Congratulations to the OCS Robotics Team 2022 VEX Robotics! The competition for New York State High School Championships compete against 54 teams across the state. Devin Kobasa and Andre' Vonderweidt placed 2nd at the NYS Championship Tournament and Qualifying for the World Championship in Dallas Texas.

Onondaga County Winter Photo Contest



Mrs. Palmer's photography class trip brings back lots of special photographs, memories, and a winner. We wanted to let you know that the first-place winner for the junior photographer category in the Onondaga County Winter Photo Contest is our very own, Rory Doner! The winning photograph is from their field trip to Onondaga Lake Park.

ATHLETICS NEWS

Varsity Boys Basketball

SCHOLAR ATHLETE TEAM AWARD Scholar Athletes: Gavin Annable, Najeh Bey, Nick Toomey, Jon Underberg



Varsity Boys Basketball - Najeh Bey, Sam McIntosh, Nick Toomey, Chasyn Bass

This year's team started with 10 players, but due to 2 injuries and Covid issues, only played a shortened beginning schedule, winning one and losing one. We re-started the season in January with limited practices and players and lost 6 games due to many minutes played by only 7 athletes. Our team finished 4-15, with only 3 seniors (2 who have not played Varsity before) and 5 others with first year experience in a tough, competitive division.

They have pushed themselves to get better and work very well in combined practices with the JV program, so we have enough players to learn and scrimmage. Varsity play for new players is difficult for many reasons with different types of defense and the extra minutes we play, due to a short bench.

I am proud of this group, as we have surprised a couple of teams. We are very capable of an upset when we play our best basketball and almost pulled one off in the first round of sectionals on the road in Adirondack. ~ Coach Bednarz

Varsity Girls Basketball

SCHOLAR ATHLETE TEAM AWARD Scholar Athletes: Riley Cox, Sydney Cox, Emma Donath, Jakiya Hill, Charlotte Hourigan, Delanie Knapp, Ava Murphy

The basketball team finished with a record of 10-10. The girls have worked hard on improving their skills and

team chemistry. We were sidelined a couple of weeks due to Covid and injuries. We finished with two tough games including a long road trip to Cooperstown in the first round of sectionals.

The team is extremely young at the Varsity level as we only have one senior and four juniors. The remainder of the team is composed of two sophomores and an eighth grader. One of this season's highlights was Senior Riley Cox attaining the achievement of reaching her 1,000th career point. Riley is now the 6th player in the program's history to reach this milestone and the third player in the past two years. Congratulations Riley! In the off-season, the girls will participate in open gyms, summer league play and workouts in the weight room.

Thank you to our families and the community for your continued support of our program.~ Coach Culver

Varsity Volleyball

SCHOLAR ATHLETE TEAM AWARD Scholar Athletes: Lillian Coonradt, Prudence Corrente, Emily Francis, Gianna Fresina, Katie Gunter, Breanna Jacobson, Amelia

Shackleton, Ava Spicer, Bridgid Walker

The varsity volleyball team, with 12 members, finished with a record of 12-8. Huge improvements were made during the season. The majority of the team met their individual and team goals, requiring them to set new ones. These are a great group of girls that truly know the meaning of "team". We won our first round of sectional competition in a home



Varsity Volleyball - Lillian Coonradt, Hailey Eipp

ATHLETICS NEWS

game against Pulaski and then fell to the #2 ranked Mt. Markham Mustangs in the quarterfinals. We will be putting a lot of effort into improving and recruiting new players in the off season.

JV Boys Basketball



JV Boys Basketball - Jordan Cheek

The JV Boys basketball team demonstrated perseverance and resilience throughout the 2021-2022 season. Our goals were to continue to develop fundamental skills, basketball IQ, and to reinforce character development for all of our student-athletes. Each game was an opportunity to compete and measure our progress. I was proud of our team's effort every time we stepped onto the court. We will continue to provide off-season opportunities such as open gym and summer league. Dates and times will be determined. Please contact Coach Vincentini with any questions. ~ Coach Vincentini

JV Girls Basketball

We were a young and at times, undermanned team. Though it has been a challenging season dealing with COVID and a few injuries; this team has persevered through it all. Even when playing with just 6 available girls, everyone on the team was ready to step up and do what they could. This team has also been one of the toughest teams to go up against defensively in our

league; only allowing opponents to score more than 35 points just twice this season. We have a great group of sophomores heading up to varsity next year and a promising core of freshmen to return next year! ~ Coach Behm

JV Volleyball

The JV volleyball team consisted of 11 motivated and hardworking female athletes; 4 sophomores and 7 freshmen. Every practice our athletes became more of a team as well as better teammates. The Lady Tigers grew immensely on offense, each game getting more comfortable being aggressive at the net. Sophomore Rory Doner, middle hitter, finished with the most kills on the season.

The team's biggest adversity was defense, which was something we focused on every day in practice. By the end of the season, the Tigers were able to compete against stronger offensive teams by making tough passes. Our main defensive player, sophomore Zoe Power, was a great leader in the back row and inspired her teammates to keep playing hard even on the toughest of matches. The team's overall record was 3-9. The team will be losing four incredible sophomores; Candace, Skylar, Zoe, and Rory who have been great leaders on and off the court this season. We will be excited to welcome back the very motivated freshman who are excited for improvement and new opportunities for leadership on the court. ~ Coach Pouliot

Indoor Track and Field

SCHOLAR ATHLETE TEAM AWARD (Girls) Scholar Athletes: Jeffrey Bennett, Lilith Eroh, Lauren Leite, Sophia Myer, Natalie Price, Marah Strand, Vanessa Woolery

Derek Lyons established a new team record in the weight throw this season, launching the twenty-five pound implement 46 feet, 5 inches. He also is among the top in this event and will compete in the state qualifying meet in late February. Derek earned 2nd team all-league honors in both the weight throw and shot put.

Teammate Emmett Dix won both the 1600 and 3200 meter races at the league championship. Only a sophomore, Emmett took the lead early in both events and easily won these events. Vanessa Woolery also won a league title in the 600 meter race. Prior to this, Vanessa also set a school record in the 55 meter sprint with an amazing time of 7.78.

ATHLETICS NEWS

In the Class Championships, Vanessa Woolery placed 2nd in both the 300 and 600 meter races and 3rd in the 55 meter race. Emmett Dix (1000m) and Hayden Hemlock (300m) also placed 2nd as well. Overall the boys team took 7th out of 22 teams and the girls team was 6th out of 19 teams. ~ Coach O'Leary

Varsity Wrestling

(Combined with Marcellus Mustangs) OCS is proud to bring wrestling back to our school this year! We scheduled several home modified multi-matches and hosted the OHSL Varsity Wrestling League Championships on January 29th. It was an outstanding event and a great opportunity for our younger wrestlers to see what high level competition is all about.

In his final season wrestling for Onondaga Zach Grolling is a 2 time Sectional Qualifier, he placed third in the class meet this past weekend, and was a finalist in the OHSL League Tournament for the 172 lbs weight class. Zach gets along with everyone, fits right in on a team of all Marcellus kids. He shows up every day ready to work which is a testament to his character. Zach is also in consideration for the wrestling officials' scholarship and he's just an all-around great kid! ~ Coach Donovan

School Sports

School/sports physicals are offered twice each year: once each fall, and then again in the spring. School physicals will be offered on Wednesday, May 11, 2022; they will not be offered again until October, 2022. School physicals are free of charge. You may contact Ms. Rohe if you would like to schedule your child for a school physical in May. Physicals are required for all students entering grades 7, 9 and 11 in the fall, and all students wishing to participate in the sports program or students needing working papers.

Note: It is recommended that these examinations be done by the family physician if possible, as he/she is most familiar with your child. Your family physician is better able to judge any change or problem in your child's state of health, and can discuss any recommendations with you directly at that time. They can also update your child's immunizations and complete medication forms if medications are required in school (includes inhalers).

Modified Wrestling



Modified Wrestling - Jack Burton

Last year the modified wrestling team only had four members. We have boosted our numbers to nine this year. The Onondaga Mat Club should get recognition for increasing interest and participation in the sport. The boys have learned a lot of wrestling in a few short weeks and have come together as a team. COVID put a couple of the wrestlers behind, but we have been competitive in each of our matches. These boys are learning the value of hard work, dedication and teamwork. Above all, they definitely had fun. ~Coach Miller



DISTRICT NEWS

Superintendent's Message *...continued from the cover*

including exterior exit and entrance to gain easy access to the existing garden and patio outdoor seating area and finishing a final upgrade to classroom bathroom. At Rockwell ES we will be finishing up the classroom renovations in the two Pre-kindergarten classrooms with bathroom and cabinetry upgrades and in the corridors walls and ceiling upgrades. We are very appreciative and thankful for community support to help us maintain and make improvements to facilities and grounds. This summer's work will conclude a three to four year process of planning, designing and construction to preserve our facilities for the next several generations.

We are busy working on the OCS 2022-2023 budget as you will see in the coming news and budget publications. We have an expected budget to budget increase of 1.80% to the general budget. Additionally, we are expecting a 5.51% increase due to the previously approved 2020 Capital Project coming "on the books" this upcoming year. As we shared when planning in 2019 and 2020 for the Capital Project and voting back in March of 2020, the project would have little impact on the tax rate as there is proportional Building Aid associated with this increase to offset the project's debt payments. You will be receiving more information soon on the proposed Budget for 2022-2023, as we have developed the budget and have been able to maneuver around some of the highest inflation rates we have seen in years, creating impact across the

board to all aspects running the school. One of our major goals in this year's budget development was to maintain all programs and staffing, which the proposed budget accomplished. Another goal was also to keep our 10 year average tax rate increase low and we aimed at that again with an estimated rate of .53% average increase for ten years. We are very thankful to the community for your support and dedication to our School District. Without you, all the great programs we offer and updated facilities cannot happen.

This year, we settled into a more normal feeling of school that once was the unconscious comfortable way of life prior to the pandemic. We thank all of you for the ability to adapt to the changes during the school year. I would like to say it again, I am very proud and grateful with the display of teamwork, cooperation, and caring from stakeholders in Onondaga CSD! As you have seen from many of my previous communications, the health and safety of our students, staff and community is our top priority and will continue to be. We will also continue to be good stewards of the school and keep a respectful eye on what is asked of the community financially too. The final months of the school year are here. If you have time, come out and catch a game, meet, musical concert or an awards ceremony. Our students are doing great things in and out of the classroom. **Go Tigers! Be stubbornly POSITIVE AND CONSISTENTLY STRONG!**

Anything Goes to Elementary School



OCS Drama traveled to Wheeler and Rockwell Elementary to perform selections from Anything Goes on April 1st. The Drama students dazzled the younger students with their songs and their tap dancing. Everyone had a wonderful time!

DISTRICT NEWS

Alumni Wall Of Distinction Nomination Form

If you are interested in nominating an OCS alumnus who has distinguished him/herself after graduation, please submit the following application. The following criteria will be considered in the selection:

- Success in his or her chosen career
- Nationally recognized records and/or achievements
- Outstanding contributions to humanity
- Four years beyond formal education
- Success which reflects the high quality of education and guidance from teachers, coaches, and/or non-instructional mentors in the OCS staff



All nominations must be submitted by May 16, 2022. Nominations may be mailed, emailed or returned to the high school office. Please address them in care of Janet Ferris, 4479 South Onondaga Rd. Nedrow, N.Y. 13120 or by email jferris@onondagacsd.org.

Nominee's Name: _____

Nominee's Address: _____

Nominee's Phone: _____ Year of Graduation From OCS: _____

Post High School Experience: _____

Reason For Nomination: _____

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____ Your Phone: _____

Your Relationship To Nominee: _____ Date Submitted: _____

Please add any other information that you feel the committee should know when considering this person's nomination.

DISTRICT NEWS

OCS COMMUNITY

OCS Education Foundation present

The Charles Molloy OCSEF Annual Golf Tournament

Saturday July 9, 2022 • Orchard Vali Golf Club

9:15-9:45 a.m. Registration • 10:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

Buffet & Prizes to Follow

Cost Includes: Golf, Cart, Lunch, Dinner Buffet & Prizes



COMMUNITY MEMBERS Cost: \$85.00 per golfer

If you do not have a foursome you can be assigned to one.

For more information, please contact John Pierce 315-492-1974 or email to jcpierce43@gmail.com

Name _____ Daytime Phone _____

Foursome Names:

1) _____ 2) _____

email _____ email _____

3) _____ 4) _____

email _____ email _____

or

☐ Please assign me to a foursome

Send form and payment to: (checks paychecks to "OCSEF")

John Pierce, 3832 Makeys Road, Syracuse NY 13215

DISTRICT NEWS

OCS STUDENT

OCS Education Foundation present

The Charles Molloy OCSEF Annual Golf Tournament

Saturday July 9, 2022 • Orchard Vali Golf Club

9:15-9:45 a.m. Registration • 10:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

Buffet & Prizes to Follow

Cost Includes: Golf, Cart, Lunch, Dinner Buffet & Prizes



OCS STUDENTS Cost: \$45.00 per student golfer

(Students must show current OCS student ID)

If you do not have a foursome you can be assigned to one.

For more information, please contact John Pierce 315-492-1974 or email to jcpierce43@gmail.com

Name _____ Daytime Phone _____

Foursome Names:

1) _____ 2) _____

email _____ email _____

3) _____ 4) _____

email _____ email _____

or

☐ Please assign me to a foursome

Send form and payment to: (checks paychecks to "OCSEF")

John Pierce, 3832 Makeys Road, Syracuse NY 13215

DISTRICT NEWS

OCS Cares for Ukraine: #Positivityinaction



As the recent events in Ukraine started to unfold, several staff members from the Jr/Sr High School, Wheeler, and Rockwell met to brainstorm ways to help. Throughout the month of March, we collected personal care items such as bar soap, toothpaste, bandages, socks, and baby items. The donations from students, staff, and community members filled many boxes and on April 1, Fr. Michael of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church came and collected them. The supplies will be shipped to Ukraine and some given to Ukrainian refugees who may arrive in the Syracuse area. Fr. Michael was very appreciative of the kindness shown by the OCS community.

Creative OCS staff and students recently made two styles of sunflower pins in support of Ukraine, and received a donation of "Peace in Ukraine" pins. Pins were sold at the *Night of the Arts* at the Jr/Sr High School, the Wheeler concert, the drama production of *"Anything Goes"* and at each OCS building. To date, over \$1,600.00 has been raised with all proceeds being donated to the International Rescue Committee. Thank you for your generous support!

Also in March, students in grades 7 through 12 worked with Mrs. Pristash and Mrs. Passetti during their lunch periods to make sunflowers to show community support for Ukraine. Students worked together to create these paper sunflowers, with every flower being unique. The flowers were all then put on display on the big picture window in the first floor hallway. Thank you to all of the students who lent their talents towards creating this community display!

Please contact the main offices of the Jr/Sr High School, Wheeler, or Rockwell for more information.

Night of the Arts



On Wednesday, March 16th, the annual Night of the Arts was held at the Junior/Senior High School. The evening featured an art exhibit of work from students in grades 6 through 12, put together by Mrs. Passetti, Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Ryan, and their talented art students. There was also an excellent concert performance from Mr. Dolloff's band students and Ms. Lenkiewicz's chorus students. The art exhibit remained in place for the next few days so that students from Wheeler could come over and enjoy the exhibit. The event was a wonderful celebration of creativity and talent from our OCS Fine Arts students. Well done, everyone!



DISTRICT NEWS

(T-20) September (S-19)				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
(T-20) October (S-20)				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	<21>
24	25	26	27	28
31				
(T-18) November (S-18)				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
<21>	<22>	23	24	25
28	29	30		
(T-17) December (S-17)				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
(T-20) January (S-20)				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	<27>
30	31			

SEPTEMBER	
1	Superintendent's Conference Day
5	Labor Day (No School)
6	First Day of School for Students
OCTOBER	
10	Columbus Day No School
21	Superintendent's Conference Day (1/2 Day)
NOVEMBER	
11	Veterans Day (No School)
21 & 22	Rockwell/Wheeler - Parent/Teacher Conf. 1/2 days
23-25	Thanksgiving Recess (No School)
DECEMBER	
Dec 26-Jan 2	Holiday Recess (No School)
JANUARY	
16	Martin Luther King Day (No School)
24-27	Regents Exams
27	Jr./Sr. HS - Rating Day (Staff Only)
27	1/2 Day Superintendent's Conf. - Rockwell/Wheeler
FEBRUARY	
20-24	Presidents' Day/Winter Recess (No School)
MARCH	
20	Superintendent's Conference Day (1/2 day)
APRIL	
3-7	Spring Recess/Good Friday (No School)
19-21	3-8 ELA NYS Assessment Days
MAY	
2-4	3-8 Math NYS Assessment Days
29	Memorial Day (No School)
JUNE	
5	Grades 4 & 8 Science Exams
12-22	Local and Regents Exams
19	Juneteenth Holiday (No School)
22	Last Day of Regent Exams
22	1/2 Day Superintendent's Conf. - Rockwell/Wheeler
23	Jr./Sr. High School Rating Day - Staff only
23	High School Graduation

(T-15) February (S-15)				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28			
(T-23) March (S-23)				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
<20>	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31
(T-15) April (S-15)				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
(T-22) May (S-22)				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		
(T-16) June (S-16)				
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	<23>
26	27	28	29	30

When school is not in session, transportation will not be provided on our district buses, including private and parochial schhol students, BOCES students, and all others.
Teacher days = 186. Student days = 185. Adopted by the Board of Education on 3/8/22.

**ONONDAGA CENTRAL SCHOOLS
DISTRICT NEWSLETTER**

4466 South Onondaga Road
Nedrow NY 13120

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4466 South Onondaga Road
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315-552-5000
FAX 315-492-4650
onondagacsd.org

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Tara Carter-Lettsome
Heather Luchsinger
Noelle Relles
Steve Vonderweidt

Rob Price, Superintendent of Schools

**Please bring your
bottles & cans to the HS
to drop off at the bottle
truck anytime!**

We appreciate your support!
OCS Booster Club

Calendar of Events

May

- 3 Budget Public Hearing/Board of Education Mtg.,
6pm, Jr/Sr High School Cafeteria
- 17 Budget Vote, 7am-9pm, Rockwell Gymnasium
and Jr/Sr High School Lobby
- 30 Board of Education Meeting, 9:20pm, Jr/Sr High Caf.
Memorial Day - No School

June

- 1 Jr./Sr. High School Band Concert 7-8pm, Jr/Sr HS Aud.
- 2 Jr./Sr. High School Chorus Concert 7-8:00pm,
Jr/Sr HS Aud.
- 3 Jr./Sr. High School Tiger Day, Jr./Sr. High School
- 9 Game Day at Rockwell Elementary School
- 10 Wheeler June Concert 6:30pm, Jr/Sr High School
- Jr/Sr High School 7th and 8th Grade Field Trip
- Jr./Sr. High School Last Day of Classes
- Jr./Sr. High School Senior Picnic
- Wheeler Race Day @ Wheeler Elementary
- 20 **Juneteeth - No School**