

# Learners & Leaders

[WWW.OASD.ORG](http://WWW.OASD.ORG)

BECOMING AN UNRIVALED LEARNING COMMUNITY



## Grades 4K-5 in the Oconomowoc Area School District Move to Bridges in Mathematics

Impressive levels of engagement and learning are occurring in 4K through fifth grade math classrooms in the Oconomowoc Area School District. Students and teachers have embraced Bridges in Mathematics this year as a comprehensive curriculum that offers rigorous and engaging learning opportunities. This curriculum has provided teachers the opportunity to develop students' deep understanding of mathematical concepts and problem solve a variety of tasks through daily lessons and number corner sessions.

Throughout math units, students participate in a blend of whole group, small group, and independent activities. During daily Bridges lessons, students might engage in the following ways: problems and investigations to incorporate whole group and partner work to share and compare mathematical strategies and solutions to problems, workplaces to offer ongoing practice with skills, math forums to foster structured time for mathematical discussion, and problem strings to strategize a carefully structured sequence of problems. In addition to daily Bridges lessons, number corner is an essential component of the Bridges curriculum. After number

“ We are very excited about the connections our students are making between concepts taught in daily lessons and reviewed in number corner workouts as well as the increase in mathematical discourse among students in the classroom. ”

Jenna Trame, Kindergarten Teacher, Park Lawn Elementary

corner is introduced for a unit, daily updates, discussions, and activities are led by students. Students are encouraged to pose questions to one another and seek explanations from peers during daily work.

Students have the ability to take ownership of their learning by reflecting not only on the math concepts being learned, but also practices to strengthen themselves as mathematicians. Classrooms encourage students to use reasoning skills, construct viable arguments, model with mathematics, attend to precision, use strategic tools, and persevere while problem solving.



Roger J. Rindo, Ed.D.  
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## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK BUILDING AN UNRIVALED LEARNING COMMUNITY

In the spring of 2014, a district-wide committee worked together drafting a new, actionable strategic plan for OASD. Approved by the School Board in July 2014, the plan established a clear mission, vision, commitments, and strategic directions which guided district work over the past three years. The OASD utilized its strategic plan to set clear district performance measures and develop a system-wide approach for improvement in key areas. The district has made considerable gains over the past three years, but there is more work to be done.

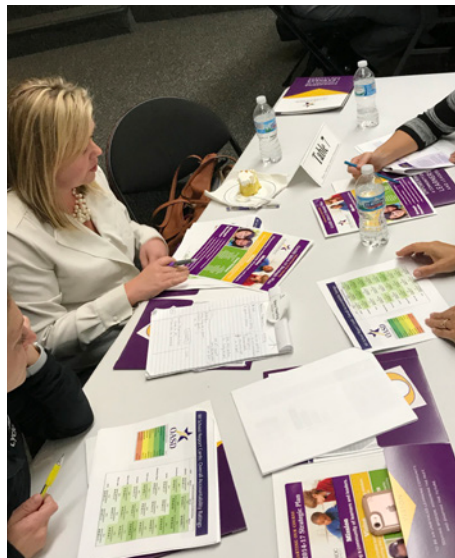
This past fall, an enlarged district-wide group began developing a strategic plan refresh that will guide enhancements to our strategic directions. This refreshed plan will chart the district's future course and commitment to our mission of "Empowering a Community of Learners and Leaders."

Through this work the district will establish an updated set of core values, new performance measures, and commitments to stakeholders. It will culminate in clear strategic directions to focus our work for the future. This strategic plan refresh will inspire action among all district staff, by doing the following:

- Develop district work plans guided by the strategic directions.
- Align the strategic plan and performance measures with school and department improvement plans.
- Develop and refine organizational processes to improve effectiveness.

Later this spring, all staff, parents, and community members will be invited to preview a draft of the plan in a series of evening gallery walks. We want to know what you believe is most important for continued growth and success. The School Board will review the plan and your feedback in a work session and consider it for formal approval before the end of the school year.

I am excited about the work that is underway and look forward to your feedback on it. This is such an exciting time for the Oconomowoc Area School District! Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we work together to build an unrivaled learning community.



### #5 STRATEGIC DIRECTION

## OHS DECA STUDENTS "ADOPT A SCHOOL"

In 2006, Oconomowoc High School (OHS) DECA students were looking for a way to give back to others during the holidays. They decided to donate school supplies to a nearby school and call the program "Adopt a School". Eleven years later, the "Adopt a School" program is still going strong but now adopts a different school each year.

In December, DECA partnered with George Washington Carver Academy in Milwaukee's Brewers Hill neighborhood, and brought necessities and



gifts to 434 children in grades 3K-8. Silver Lake Intermediate students even joined in the program by holding a hygiene products drive at school last November. They gathered over 300 pounds of hygiene products that were also given to Carver students.

This year's "Adopt a School" was led by two OHS DECA members, Emily Kehl and Emma Audley. Both students led the DECA club in organizing the donation drive, gift-wrapping, transportation, and delivery of the gifts.




**FACILITIES & CONSTRUCTION UPDATES**



**MEADOW VIEW ELEMENTARY**

Since the start of the facility referendum process, the OASD has had a strong partnership with the City of Oconomowoc and St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church. This partnership will result in a new Meadow View Elementary, new St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church and School, and new City of Oconomowoc park, all equipped with complete roadways and sidewalks along with city sewer and electric.

The City of Oconomowoc began work at the site in July 2017, with initial paving completed in November 2017. St. Matthew’s broke ground for their new church and school in September 2017, with completion scheduled for August 2018. The Meadow View timeline is on-track and consistent with the original timeline outlined in the referendum. Meadow View Elementary School construction is projected to begin in April 2018, with a completion date of August 2019.



Join Us to Celebrate the Meadow View Elementary School Project Kickoff! OASD staff, parents, and community members are all welcome to join in the festivities, acknowledgements, and student participation.

**SAVE THE DATE!** **May 11, 2018**  
Meadow View Elementary School Groundbreaking Celebration **at 10:15 a.m.**

**IMPORTANT CONSTRUCTION DATES**



**IXONIA ELEMENTARY**

The shape of the Ixonia Elementary addition is well defined and the wood timbers, which are the focal point of the main entrance, are in place. Interior wall framing, rough mechanical, plumbing, and fire protection work is progressing through the cold weather. Exterior masonry is nearly complete as well. Interior drywall work began in February and will continue through the cold months with exterior work progressing in the warmer months. The Ixonia project is on-track as it approaches August completion.



**OHS MAIN AND EAST CAMPUSES**

A wall breaking celebration was held at OHS East Campus on December 1, 2017. OASD School Board members, administration, staff, and students all joined in the excitement to kick-off this project. In December, demolition and asbestos abatement crews cleared and prepared the site for bidding. At their January meeting, the School Board approved the East Campus Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$9,250,000, which is \$8,000 below the pre-referendum budget. The GMP includes several additional project components like a full roof replacement.

# OASD IN THE NEWS!



## OHS Visiting Artist Series

Professional artist and potter, Mr. Mark Skudlarek, of Cambridge Wood-Fired Pottery visited OHS in December, to work with students in Mr. Brock Rumohr’s Ceramics classes. Skudlarek has trained all over the world and now operates a wood fire kiln and pottery studio in Cambridge, Wisconsin.

During his visit, Skudlarek demonstrated wheel-throwing techniques that he has developed over decades as one of the country’s premier professional potters.

### ► HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

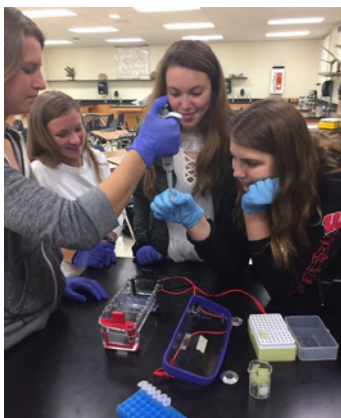


## Real-life Hospitality Experience

The OHS Hospitality Class partnered with the iconic Golden Mast restaurant in Okauchee during the fall and winter semesters for a real restaurant management and operations experience. Students in Jennifer Starke White’s Hospitality Class have worked with local restaurants for several years but their experience at Golden Mast was the most memorable so far. “In working at the Golden Mast for a day I learned a lot of new things and was able to apply what I learned in hospitality class to a real life situation. I learned about how the front of house staff works, specifically at banquets, and how little amount of staff is actually necessary in order to complete a task. Doing this was very informational and a great way to get students involved with new jobs,” said OHS freshman, Oona Audley of her experience.

## Hands-On Scientific Exploration

The face of high school science classes has changed a lot in the last decade and buzz words like “STEM” are now part of teacher and parent vocabulary. At OHS, teachers Mrs. Kelly Holtzman, Mr. Lucas Jensen, and Mr. Dan Starr are taking science education to a whole new level and redefining what STEM means for our students.



This year, OHS introduced two new Project Lead the Way (PLTW) courses, PLTW Principles of Biomedical Science, the introductory course of the four-part PLTW Biomedical Science program, and PLTW Human Body Systems. PLTW courses are hands-on, engaging programs that encourage critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and hard work, all within content areas that prepare students for future careers within those areas.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lake Country Film Festival: April 13, 2018

The Lake Country Film Festival launched in Spring 2016 and encourages future filmmakers to create films and production pieces that inspire audiences through the power of visual artistry, sound design, and storytelling. In the second season of the festival, students from 16 schools and nine school districts submitted films for the competition. This year, OHS students and staff hope to reach even more students throughout Wisconsin.

All student films must be submitted by February 28, 2018. The festival’s review committee will announce their film selections in mid-March.

Visit [www.lakecountryfilmfestival.org](http://www.lakecountryfilmfestival.org) for more information.





## Grades K-8 Fundamentals of Grammar

The writing instruction in OASD K-8 classrooms emphasizes clearly articulating stories, information, and arguments to a variety of audiences in order to accomplish a particular task or purpose.

To enhance student communication and writing, K-8 writing teachers have implemented a supplemental program, called The Fundamentals of Grammar & Conventions, with the purpose of assisting students' command of standard English grammar and usage while writing and speaking.



Greenland 1st grade teacher, Julie Acker, working with a student during grammar instruction.

The Fundamentals of Grammar & Conventions provides authentic opportunities for students to deepen understanding of how language and grammar impacts written and oral communication. Jennifer Seidemann, a Meadow View Elementary fourth grade teacher, describes the program this way, "Grammar Fundamentals is a program designed to target grade level appropriate grammar skills and strategies for writing. The program not only focuses on the basic grammar rules, but it also teaches text structure and layout. The program offers students a chance to visualize the skill or strategy in an already published text and then offers time for students to practice the skills that can later be used in their independent writing during Writer's Workshop."

The program closely aligns with the district's core writing program and was selected by grade level literacy leaders due to the instructional models provided. Teachers have researched best practices in language and grammar instruction, finding that students learn best when taught in the context of authentic writing. Michelle Ware, a Greenland Elementary fourth grade literacy leader, explains, "As literacy leaders, we worked to figure out which lessons best fit with our writing units of study to ensure that students can practice the grammar skills they're learning."



## A Long Musical Theater Tradition

The musical theater programs at Silver Lake Intermediate (SLI) and Nature Hill Intermediate (NHI) offer students an opportunity to grow their acting, singing, and dancing skills, but they build many other skills too. Students learn about, and help run, the technical aspects of the show like lighting, sound, scenery design, and stage management.

"There is no shortage of musical theater talent at Silver Lake, but it doesn't take just talent, it also takes hard work. This program helps our students develop the life skills of organization, communication, teamwork, and responsibility, all while having the exciting challenge of a stage performance," said Silver Lake teacher and musical director, Lynne Carlstein.

Teacher and parent volunteers are also essential to both productions, supporting their student's hard work and contributing their own time to help with set design, fundraising, costume design, and much more. Nature Hill teacher and show director, Amy Jappinen explained, "Nature Hill is thrilled to be heading *"Into the Woods"* for this year's all-school musical. With 64 performers and 41 tech crew members, it takes seven adults on the production staff, and countless adult/parent volunteers to present one thrilling show."

### Silver Lake Intermediate



February 22-23 - 7:00 p.m.  
February 24 - 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

### Nature Hill Intermediate



March 8-9 - 7:00 p.m.  
March 10 - 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

**Tickets are on sale now at the OAC Box Office or online at [www.theoac.net](http://www.theoac.net)**





# WINTER SPORTS RACCOON PRIDE

## CONGRATS!

The Raccoon Winter Sports Season is in full swing and our teams are doing very well as they transition to the Classic 8 conference. We hope you come and cheer our teams on!

**Go Raccoons! #oconpride**



### Classic 8 Sportsmanship Award

OHS Girls Varsity Volleyball and Girls Varsity Golf Receive the Classic 8 Conference Sportsmanship Award

### Welcome New OHS Varsity Girls Soccer Coach Brian Staus!

The OHS Athletic Department and the Girls Soccer program are excited to announce the hiring of new head coach, Brian Staus. Brian comes to OHS with ten years of high school and college coaching experience.



**VISIT**  
[www.oasd.org](http://www.oasd.org) under the OHS Athletics page for the most current sport schedules





## OPEF Grant Reviews Begin

The Oconomowoc Public Education Foundation (OPEF) is excited to begin the grant review process for the 2018-2019 school year. The public presentation of the grants will be made at the May 2018, Oconomowoc Area School District (OASD) Board of Education Meeting. OPEF has given over \$390,000 for classroom grants since 2007, including the 2017-2018 grant, Ixonia Recording Studio at Ixonia Elementary School.

OPEF is dedicated to encouraging leadership, fostering excellence, and nurturing community in the Oconomowoc public schools. OPEF raises and provides funds for innovative educational opportunities and experiences not funded in the core school district budget. OPEF is led by a volunteer Board of Directors that consults with, but operates independently from, the OASD Board of Education and staff.

The 2017-2018 OPEF Board of Directors consists of: Tom Bartos, Angela Cowles (president), Matt Carrico, Keara Harris (Board Administrator), Jennifer Holland, Leigh Jordan, Allison Mueller, Kerry Rich, Michael Schroeder (treasurer), M. Dee Warzyn and Katie Westerman.

*“The Ixonia Elementary Recording Studio is up and running filming Ixonia News! Students are not only learning how to use technology to enhance learning, they are improving their speaking and listening skills, writing skills, and problem-solving abilities. Thank you OPEF for this transformational experience for our students!”*

*- Meg Eichstadt and Traci Timm, Ixonia Elementary Teachers*



## #3 STRATEGIC DIRECTION

### OASD Strategic Plan Refresh Work

The OASD Leadership Team convened this fall to kick off a refresh of the district’s 3-year strategic plan. The group, composed of teachers, parents, leaders, and School Board members, began the process by analyzing results of district efforts under the prior plan. The team will continue to meet monthly with final refresh recommendations presented to the board before the end of the school year.

## UPCOMING OAC EVENTS

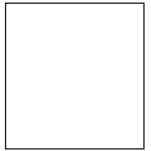


- March 8-28—OHS IB Art Show, OAC Lobby
- March 17—Tallymoore Contemporary Irish Folk Music, dinner option 6:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. performance
- March 23-24—3M Trio, Little Theater, 6:15 p.m. dinner, 7:00 p.m. performance
- April 20-May 19—Annual WRAP Art Show, OAC Lobby
- April 21—OAC Third Annual “Arts in Bloom” Gala, La Belle Golf Club, Village of Lac La Belle, 6:00 p.m.
- May 19—Oconomowoc Chamber Orchestra Music and the Lakes, 7:00 p.m.
- May 20—One Night in Memphis- Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins, Elvis Presley & Jerry Lee Lewis Tribute Music Show, 4:00 p.m.
- June 1-24—Various Artists from Fine Art Montage Montage Unleashed, OAC Lobby

Be sure to check the OAC calendar for intermediate and high school concert and event dates! [www.theoac.net](http://www.theoac.net)

CORNER

ARTS



## OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD: FEBRUARY 5-APRIL 30, 2018

The Open Enrollment period is February 5, through April 30, 2018. Parents can access online application forms through the WI Department of Public Instruction website. For more information, please call our District Student Services Department at 262-560-2155.

## OASD SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 5, 2018

The OASD's summer school courses will be open for registration Monday, March 5, beginning at 6:00 a.m. and will conclude on March 16, at 12:00 p.m. Please visit the Summer School page of our website at [www.oasd.org/summerschool](http://www.oasd.org/summerschool) for more information.



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Meadow View Elementary School  
Groundbreaking Celebration  
May 11, 2018 – 10:15 a.m.



### OASD School Board

School Board meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Oconomowoc High School Little Theater and are open to the public.

Kim Herro  
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### PLEASE NOTE:

In order to be good stewards of taxpayer funds, a cost-effective bulk mailing service was used for this publication. There are limitations to the service and we cannot fully match the mailing list with our school district borders without adding significant cost. If you do not live within the Oconomowoc Area School District and received this publication due to this limitation, we ask for your understanding.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

- 22-24 . . . . Silver Lake Intermediate Musical *Aladdin, Jr.*, OAC, February 22-24, 7:00 p.m., February 24, 1:00 p.m.
- 26 . . . . . OASD No School, Teacher Development

### MARCH

- 8-10 . . . . . Nature Hill Intermediate Musical *Into the Woods, Jr.*, OAC March 8-10, 7:00 p.m., March 10, 1:00 p.m.
- 20 . . . . . Greenland Elementary Learning Celebration, 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
- 29 . . . . . OASD No School, Teacher Development
- 30-31 . . . . OASD Spring Break Begins- No School

### APRIL

- 1-9 . . . . . OASD Spring Break- No School
- 19 . . . . . Park Lawn Elementary Learning Celebration, 4:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.
- 26 . . . . . OASD Realtor Breakfast, Nature Hill Intermediate Cafeteria, 8:30 a.m.
- 26 . . . . . Meadow View Elementary Learning Celebration, 4:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

### MAY

- 10 . . . . . Ixonia Elementary Learning Celebration, 4:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.
- 10 . . . . . Summit Elementary Learning Celebration, 4:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.
- 11 . . . . . Meadow View Elementary Ground Breaking Ceremony, 10:15 a.m.
- 25 . . . . . OASD No School, Teacher Development
- 28 . . . . . Memorial Day, No School