


Learners & Leaders

BECOMING AN UNRIVALED LEARNING COMMUNITY

WWW.OASD.ORG



 Educational Quality & Culture

First Annual Career, College, and Life Readiness Day at Oconomowoc High School

Oconomowoc High School (OHS) staff are committed to providing rigorous and diverse programming that helps students to be Career, College, and Life Ready by the time they graduate from OHS. The teachers and staff at OHS work to prepare students in many ways, and one of the newest opportunities was the first Career, College, and Life Readiness Day that took place on October 17, 2019. The goal for the day was to provide authentic learning experiences where students could discover or explore their interests and potential future career paths. The day was structured differently for each grade-level so that students could explore service-learning, visit colleges and local businesses, or prepare for the ACT exams.

FRESHMEN: JUMP-START SERVICE LEARNING

Nearly 400 freshmen at OHS spent the day participating in service-learning projects organized by 25 OHS teachers and community members. Projects ranged from writing letters to members of the military serving abroad, singing and dancing with Azura Memory Care residents, sewing reusable shopping bags, trout stream habitat rehabilitation, and making dog/cat toys for HAWS. Additional projects included making friendship bracelets and cards for cancer patients through Tricia's Troops Cancer Connection, cleaning nearby lawns for community senior citizens, and many more. Freshmen gathered in the OHS fieldhouse at the end of the day to share a reflection presentation about the service work done throughout the day.

“What you do now can drastically affect something in the future.”

OHS Student

“This day provided students with exploration opportunities, authentic learning experiences, and an opportunity to understand ways to maximize their high school experience.”

Jason Curtis, OHS Principal

“We worked as a team to accomplish a goal.”

OHS Student

(cont'd on pg. 7)



Roger J. Rindo, Ed.D
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FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Our 2019–2024 OASD Strategic Plan

One of our goals in the OASD Strategic Plan 2019-2024 is to provide rigorous and diverse programs that will prepare all students to graduate ready for careers, college, and life.

In this issue of Learners & Leaders, the cover article tells the story of Oconomowoc High School's Career, College, and Life Readiness Day. This exciting day allowed students to explore their passions, visit colleges, and tour businesses

and industries that were within their career interests. This day is just one example of how we are working toward our goal to have 100% of our graduating seniors exiting high school with post-graduate plans consistent with the Academic and Career Plan that they build during their time in OASD. For some students, those plans will include attending a four-year or two-year college or technical college. For others, it will consist of certified apprenticeships and a jump into the world of work. Still, others will choose to honorably serve our country in one of the branches of the U.S. Military. For all of them, our goal is to provide rigorous and authentic work-based learning opportunities during their time with us.

Too often, and at great expense, students leave us and head to college under the belief that it is the only path to a successful future. Our work is to continue to dispel that myth, and to help students understand that there are multiple paths to success. We aim to provide students opportunities that are consistent with their passions, whatever those may be, to ensure that they are exposed to high-skill, high-wage careers, many of which do not require a college degree. For those students whose path takes them to college, they will leave us well-prepared academically and with experiences that have made them ready for future career opportunities. At the same time, students who are interested in the trades will have many different opportunities to explore options and gain valuable experiences through our Youth Apprenticeship programs, skills certification programs, and job shadows.



It is such an exciting time to be in Oconomowoc! Our goals are aggressive, and we are excited about the incredible work going on in our schools. If you are interested in learning more about our efforts around college and career readiness, please give me a call. Or, if you would like to tour any of our schools, we would be more than happy to arrange a visit. I am confident that you will be impressed by what you see.



Equity & Diversity

OHS DECA STUDENTS "ADOPT A SCHOOL"

In 2006, Oconomowoc High School DECA students were looking for a way to give back to others during the holidays. After talking with students and parents, they decided to donate school supplies to a nearby school and call the program "Adopt a School." Thirteen years later, the "Adopt a School" program is still going strong and brought necessities, gifts, and holiday cheer to Riverwest Elementary in South Milwaukee.

DECA adopts a different school each year but looks for a school that has 95% or more of its students on the free and reduced lunch program. This year, 350 students received gifts and necessities like boots, hats, mittens, underwear, and socks. Nature Hill and Silver Lake Intermediate Schools joined in by donating hygiene items and snacks to Riverwest students.



2019–2024 STRATEGIC PLAN DIRECTIONS



Educational Quality & Culture



Equity & Diversity



Personnel Excellence



Business & Financial Performance



Customer Care/Return on Investment

2019-2024 Strategic Plan



2018-19 WISCONSIN STATE REPORT CARDS

The Oconomowoc Area School District (OASD) schools made continued gains on the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction 2018-19 School Report Cards, which were released in November.



HIGHLIGHTS:

- Four OASD Elementary Schools received a five-star rating
- Greenland Elementary received a five-star rating for the 4th consecutive year
- OHS received a four-star rating and saw the most significant growth and the school's highest rating
- The overall district score continued to rise and the OASD earned a four-star rating for the 4th consecutive year

OHS LAUNCHING THE AVID INITIATIVE PILOT PROGRAM



OHS is excited to announce the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) pilot program for students who embrace hard work and are driven by rigorous coursework. AVID focuses on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading to strengthen skills that are necessary for the high school classroom and in college. Students must apply to join the AVID elective class and demonstrate how the AVID program fits into achieving their post-secondary (college, career, and life) goals by participating in an interview process and attaining recommendations from teachers/counselors. The AVID program has been successful in other school districts including, Elmbrook, Muskego-Norway, and Mequon-Thiensville, and we're excited to pilot the program here. These kinds of programs are a direct reflection of our Strategic Plan commitment to hold our students and staff to high expectations while engaging all learners in the relevant curriculum to meet our achievement goals.

	2013-14	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
OCONOMOWOC AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT	72.6 ★★★	78.4 ★★★★	78.6 ★★★★	79.2 ★★★★	80.2 ★★★★
OCONOMOWOC HIGH SCHOOL	72.6 ★★★	64.7 ★★★	72.1 ★★★	70.4 ★★★	80.0 ★★★★
NATURE HILL INTERMEDIATE	76.0 ★★★★	74.5 ★★★★	76.2 ★★★★	72.6 ★★★	72.5 ★★★
SILVER LAKE INTERMEDIATE	69.0 ★★★	70.1 ★★★	76.2 ★★★★	79.3 ★★★★	78.7 ★★★★
GREENLAND ELEMENTARY	80.4 ★★★★	83.0 ★★★★★	85.0 ★★★★★	84.9 ★★★★★	84.0 ★★★★★
IXONIA ELEMENTARY	72.9 ★★★	71.5 ★★★	83.8 ★★★★★	86.1 ★★★★★	85.0 ★★★★★
MEADOW VIEW ELEMENTARY	67.7 ★★★	71.4 ★★★	73.9 ★★★★	80.2 ★★★★	82.8 ★★★★
PARK LAWN ELEMENTARY	77.7 ★★★★	70.9 ★★★	78.4 ★★★★	85.9 ★★★★★	89.7 ★★★★★
SUMMIT ELEMENTARY	66.1 ★★★	81.2 ★★★★	93.5 ★★★★★	95.0 ★★★★★	95.9 ★★★★★

*The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction did not produce School and District Report Cards during the 2014-15 school year.

For more information visit www.oasd.org/StrategicPlan



OASD STUDENTS ARE oconDRIVEN

OASD students are oconDRIVEN to work hard and reach their goals. Visit www.oasd.org/StrategicPlan to read about our oconDRIVEN students and how they're preparing for the future.

OASD IN THE NEWS!

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



OHS Staff Explore the Youth Apprenticeship Program

During the fall professional development day, Oconomowoc High School staff immersed themselves in the OHS Youth Apprenticeship Program. They traveled to several area businesses that support youth apprenticeships and talked with business leaders and students. It was an opportunity to see youth apprenticeship students in-action and better understand what the program offers students, employers, and the community. OHS offers a variety of pathways that students can select to reach their post-high school goals. Our Youth Apprenticeship Program is an excellent option for students to gain work experience and try out different professions before graduating from high school. Thank you to First Bank Financial Centre (FBFC), Shorehaven, Ewald Automotive Group, and Tim O'Brien Homes for hosting our staff and partnering with our program.

5th Annual Lake Country Film Festival – April 3, 2020



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 2019, students from 21 schools, 15 school districts, and four states submitted films for the 4th Annual Film Festival. Now in its fifth season, the festival seeks to surpass records reached last year. Tickets for the Lake Country Film Festival at the Oconomowoc Arts Center are on sale now at www.TheOAC.net.

All student films must be submitted by February 29, 2020. The festival's review committee will announce their film selections in mid-March. Visit www.lakecountryfilmfestival.org for more information.

OHS DECA Hosts Annual Mock-Competition



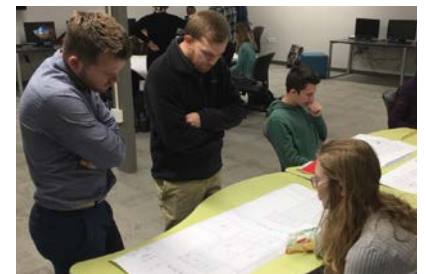
The Oconomowoc High School DECA Club hosted its annual mock-competition in November. The mock-competition is an opportunity for new DECA members to participate in a full competition simulation and receive feedback from the judges and mentors, making them better prepared for formal competitions. Thank you to the community members who participated as judges and staff members who helped make this learning opportunity possible for students!



Westside Story Jerry Nominations

The OASD is pleased to announce that the OHS Players production of *Westside Story* was nominated for 25 Jerry Awards, including Outstanding Musical! The Jerry Awards recognizes and honors excellence in high school musical theater. Winners will be announced in May 2020.

OHS Civil Engineering & Architecture Students Work With Tim O'Brien Homes



Civil Engineering & Architecture students at Oconomowoc High School worked with Tim O'Brien Homes to design a home. Tim O'Brien Homes design team came to OHS to give students feedback on the progress of their designs. The goal is to have this class someday design the home that our OHS Building Trades 3 class build through the district's partnership with Tim O'Brien Homes.



INTERMEDIATE NEWS



New Science, Technology, Engineering & Math Options for Intermediate Students

Over the last two years, the Intermediate School Career and Tech Ed teams have been working together to update their curriculum and provide more consistency within the program and across the two schools. The Elementary Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) curriculum and OHS Career and Technical Education (CTE) programming have expanded over the past few years and the Intermediate teams were ready to connect the Elementary STEM curriculum at the Intermediate level; all with the goal of preparing students for CTE courses at OHS.

The Intermediate team began with the current curriculum. The team looked for ways to align or incorporate a design thinking framework along with Career and Tech Ed standards, Computer Science standards, and the International Society for Technology in Education standards. Through a series of learning and collaboration opportunities, the team has developed a sequence of courses that support student goal setting, design thinking principles (investigate, design, create, evaluate), and authentic learning experiences.

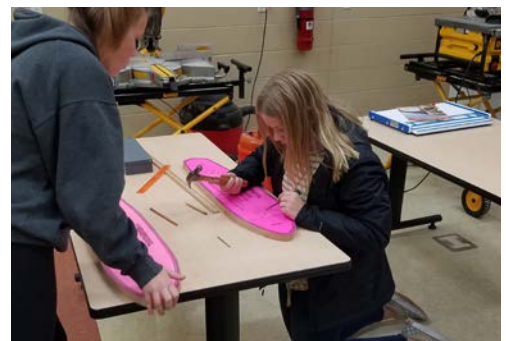
There was a significant modification of 7th and 8th-grade Technology and Engineering electives to include self-directed projects covering a variety of topics. A pilot of this model has been very well received, as it allows students an opportunity to engage in advanced, authentic projects. Students are asked to follow the same design process for all of their projects, beginning with an investigation that could include online research and talking with subject experts. Next, they design a concept for their project, which requires brainstorming, drawing sketches, or creating a prototype. After this step, students begin to build their design, then conclude by evaluating their work. The evaluation stage can be tricky for students because sometimes their creation misses the mark and requires them to go back to the design stage and shift their thinking.



Silver Lake Intermediate School Teachers, Mike Bretl and Lindsey Luciani have helped lead these curriculum advancements and offer students unique and engaging CTE/STEM projects. Mr. Bretl said, “We want students to leave our classrooms with an understanding of how to investigate a problem, design a solution, create a solution, evaluate that solution, and make necessary changes. Not every student who takes our classes will end up in a CTE/STEAM-related career. Still, the ability to problem-solve and communicate solutions is a life skill that will serve every student no matter what career path they choose.” Mrs. Luciani added, “The new Intermediate CTE courses are designed with a growth-mindset focus. They encourage students to try new things and ideas that are interesting to them, learn from their failures, put their full effort towards a project, and not give up when an idea doesn’t work out.”

This team continues to develop course curriculum throughout the school year in preparation for the 2020-2021 school year.

Silver Lake Intermediate 8th-graders, Payton K. and Ellie Z. set out to create longboards. They researched the various types of longboards, decided on their dimensions, created a template, used the skill saw to cut their design out of wood, used a router to round the edges of their boards, and attached their trucks, bearings, and wheels. Ellie then used the design studio to design a stencil for painting her board.





WINTER SPORTS

#oconPRIDE

Come cheer on our OHS athletes at one of our Winter sports!

Go Raccoons!

OCONOMOWOC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

OHS will hold its annual induction ceremony for the Athletic Hall of Fame on Saturday, May 2, at the Oconomowoc Community Center.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, visit www.oasd.org/HallOfFame

Classic 8 Sportsmanship Award



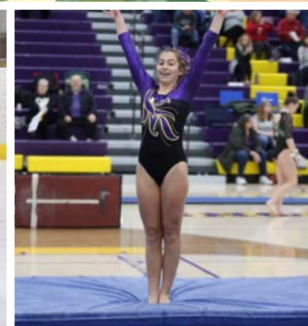
Congratulations to the OHS fall sports and coaches who were awarded Classic Eight Sportsmanship Awards.

- Soccer - Head Coach Mike Beatty
- Volleyball- Head Coach Michelle Bruss

Athletic Photo Credit: Stoneberg Sports Photography

INTERESTED IN A COONEY CARD?

Additional cards are available for purchase at home OHS games in the ticket booth, in the OHS Athletic Department during school hours, and through the Oconomowoc Sports Booster Club.



VISIT www.oasd.org/Athletics for the most current sport schedules

SOPHOMORES: COLLEGE AND CAREER VISITS

While the freshmen class worked on their service-learning projects at OHS, approximately 415 sophomore students, along with 40 OHS teachers and staff, headed to destinations throughout Waukesha County, Milwaukee, Madison, and Whitewater. Students visited destinations that align with their interests and career pathways they want to explore. These career pathways included health sciences, agriculture, government, business, finance, marketing, IT, education, creative arts, communications, architecture, construction, STEM, law, public service, military, hospitality, human services, and more.

JUNIORS: ACT PRACTICE EXAM

OHS juniors spent the day taking the ACT practice exam to help prepare for the March ACT. The ACT exam assesses student readiness for college-level work in areas of reading, English, math, science and writing. OHS staff use the data from these test results to create a personalized student preparation program for each junior, and students are assigned to an ACT study group led by an OHS mentor teacher. Students can take advantage of this group time to sign up for subject area seminars taught by teachers, learn test-taking strategies, and work through ACT practice exercises with Method Test Prep, an online computer-based program.

SENIORS: COLLEGE VISITS AND JOB SHADOWS

Seniors at OHS were encouraged to work on post-high-school transition options, including college visits, organizing a job shadow, and working on applications for financial aid, scholarships, and college admissions. While most seniors worked on post-high-school deadlines, some seniors chose to help the freshmen with their service projects.

The Career, College, and Life Readiness Day is just one of the ways OHS is helping students to be grounded in their values, committed to their purpose, and accountable to themselves and each other.



Oconomowoc Public Education Foundation (OPEF) held its 2019 Annual Ball - "A Gatsby Affair" at the Golden Mast Inn on Okauchee Lake on November 1, 2019. Over two hundred community participants and educators helped raise over \$70,000 for the Oconomowoc Area School District.

"Flappers and Gangsters" enjoyed a night filled with laughter, music, and bidding to help support the Oconomowoc Area School District. Attendees enjoyed music by OASD educator Eric Darnell, OHS Alumni Chili the Band, bid on many silent and live auction items donated by local businesses, schools and community members, and danced the night away to music from the LoveMonkeys. Thank you to all of the generous sponsors and donors!

All proceeds from the ball will go to OPEF, which funds grants and materials, equipment, and projects to enhance classroom education and innovation. The OPEF Grants Committee is excited about the upcoming grant process and will begin reviewing applications for the 2020/2021 school year in February. Please visit www.opecf.info or visit the OPEF page on Facebook for more information and grant spotlights.



Top Picture: OASD Student Volunteers, Delaney C. and Sofia K. Bottom Picture: OASD educator Eric Darnell

Congrats OHS fall athletes who competed at State



The Oconomowoc Sports Booster Club (OSBC) congratulates the 26 OHS athletes in girls volleyball, boys cross country, girls cross country, girls tennis and girls golf who competed at State this fall!

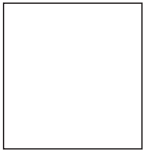
JOIN TODAY!

The OSBC is a volunteer organization that supports hundreds of student athletes in the OASD by providing additional coaches, programs and equipment to teams that might not otherwise be available. The most recent items donated to OASD athletics include swim touchpads and signage, new golf bags, a wrestling mat holder, cross country ice baths, and more. OSBC has also helped support the rental costs for hockey ice time, ski hill time, and bowling lane time.

Become a member today for \$25 per school year, per family, or as a businesses for the same fee.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OconSportsBoosterClub/>

OSBC Website: <https://oconomowocsportsboosterclub.org/>



OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD: FEBRUARY 3– APRIL 30, 2020

The Open Enrollment period is February 3- April 30, 2020. 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.



REGISTRATION

OASD Summer School registration for 5K-Grade 12 will be held from March 31, at 6 a.m. until midnight on April 8, 2020. Course brochures, registration instructions, and payment information will be available at www.oasd.org/SummerSchool on March 19, 2020.

OASD School Board

School Board meetings are open to the public and held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Oconomowoc High School East Campus, Wilkinson Board Room.

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NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Oconomowoc Area School District provides assurance that no student is discriminated against because of the student's sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability.

DECLARACIÓN DE TRADUCCIÓN

Estamos trabajando diligentemente para traducir nuestros documentos al español. Por favor comuníquese con la escuela de su hijo para aclaración. Si todavía necesitas aclaración, por favor comuníquese con Martita Mirsberger al (262) 560-8306 ext 8343.

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

MARCH

17 OASD School Board Meeting, OHS East Campus Board Room, 7 p.m.

21-29 OASD Spring Break, No School

APRIL

7 Meadow View Elementary Celebration of Learning, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

10-13 OASD Easter Break, No School

16 OASD Realtor Breakfast, OHS East Campus Board Room, 9-10 a.m.

16 Silver Lake Intermediate Celebration of Learning, 3-7 p.m.

21 OASD School Board Meeting, OHS East Campus Board Room, 7 p.m.

23 Ixonia Elementary Celebration of Learning, 4-7 p.m.

23 Park Lawn Elementary Celebration of Learning, 4-6 p.m.

27 OASD No School for Students, Staff Professional Development Day

30 Ixonia Elementary 4K Round Up, 4:15 p.m. or 5:15 p.m.

30 Meadow View Elementary 4K Round Up, 4:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., or 6:30 p.m.

MAY

2 OHS Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet, Oconomowoc Community Center, 5 p.m.

4 OASD No School 4K Students

5 Park Lawn Elementary 4K Round Up, 4-5 p.m.

5 OASD School Board Meeting, 6:45 p.m. Organizational Meeting of the Board, 7 p.m. Regular Board Meeting, OHS East Campus Board Room

6 Park Lawn Elementary 5K Round Up, 4-6 p.m.

7 Greenland Elementary 4K Round Up, 5-5:45 p.m., 5K Round Up at 5:45-6:30 p.m.

7 Summit Elementary 4K Round Up at 4:30 p.m. or 5:30 p.m., 5K Round Up at 5 p.m.

13 Summit Elementary Celebration of Learning, 4:30- 6:30 p.m.

19 OASD School Board Meeting, OHS East Campus Board Room, 7 p.m.

22 OASD No School for Students, Staff Professional Development Day

25 Memorial Day, No School