


Learners & Leaders

BECOMING AN UNRIVALED LEARNING COMMUNITY

WWW.OASD.ORG

 Educational Quality & Culture

The Ocon Virtual Learning Community Provides New Options for Students During a Unique School Year

The OASD introduced the Oconomowoc Virtual Learning Community (OVLC) as a new educational option for students in grades K-12 in the 2020-21 school year. The OVLC was developed in response to feedback from our families, who wanted a way to support their children’s learning in an entirely virtual setting due to the current pandemic. Launching this new virtual learning option is another way the OASD is fulfilling its mission of empowering a community of learners and leaders.



The first half of the school year has been a successful one for the OVLC, with students in all grade levels demonstrating ownership of their learning and supporting each other to build a community of online collaboration. In the OVLC, students engage in small group instruction with their teachers and pre-recorded video lessons to help support independent work. The virtual learning environment has helped students learn essential skills like prioritizing and organizing their time.

Third-grade OVLC students Sabrina and Maddie shared some of the things they’ve learned about virtual learning. “Students should use the chat feature in Zoom to ask questions if they are confused and answer questions the teacher asks. Also, in the breakout rooms, be a leader and help make sure everyone works together and stays on task.”

Students in the OVLC demonstrate curiosity each day and push themselves and one another to grow as leaders. The OVLC teachers and staff value building relationships with students and using engaging strategies to support students’ next steps. OVLC fifth and sixth-grade math teacher Jen Mortensen said, “I love finding new technology strategies and creating lessons that students find engaging and fun. These strategies allow me to observe student learning through digital tools and conversations.”



“ I’ve seen an improvement in self-advocacy in the students I’ve worked with this semester in the OVLC. They are doing a great job of using different technology and methods to reach out to teachers for help, communicate needs, and check-in and connect. These are students who have historically struggled to speak up or be heard in the traditional classroom. One positive side effect of the virtual environment is that students can access teachers in more emotionally “safe” ways. They can send a comment or a chat privately or meet with teachers 1:1 when needed without disrupting their regular school day. It has been great to see these students find a voice in their virtual learning. ”

Lydia Sobol, Grades 7-12 OVLC Teacher



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

This Learners & Leaders' issue is arriving in mailboxes almost one year from the time OASD began developing response plans for a new and mysterious pandemic that had recently started spreading across the Country. It's incredible what a difference twelve months makes.

Today, the struggles with COVID-19 is not over, but the availability of a vaccine shines light at the end of a very long tunnel. I believe 2021 will be a year of transition when we can begin to look ahead once again to shape our future in a new post-COVID normal. OASD will plan for this transition on two fronts: We will ensure that we are vigorously addressing gaps in student learning and supporting our students' social and emotional well-being. We will also plan for student learning opportunities to prepare them for the trends shaping our new normal.

As we head into the spring, we expect to better understand any learning gaps resulting from the modified instructional approaches from last spring and fall. We will engage our building leaders and their staff in key tactical work to address those gaps and move students forward through intense intervention and acceleration work. Those efforts will continue through summer learning opportunities. As we move through this work, we will maintain high expectations for all students and will provide them with the scaffolding they need to succeed. We will also continue working to understand the impact the pandemic had on students' emotional and mental health and will develop short-term and long-term plans to address those needs.

The global pandemic has created many lasting changes to the world of work, generating opportunities for new student pathways for which we will need to plan. Among the changes, the pandemic sparked a wave of innovation and entrepreneurship, particularly in the United States. The acceleration in technology, digitization, and artificial intelligence to increase productivity is predicted to spawn a new industrial revolution. The speed and intensity of vaccine development and research around COVID-19 therapeutics have driven a wave of biopharmaceutical science advancement. This wave of progress ranges from bioengineering and genetic sequencing to data analytics and automation. Finally, it is almost certain that the experiences associated with COVID-19 will influence post-pandemic health care changes, from prevention and public health to telemedicine and virtual healthcare. Each of these areas, and others, will be considered as we work together with families and community partners to plan college, career, and life-readiness pathways and opportunities for our students.

As Superintendent, I want to thank you for your support over these last twelve months. OASD's commitment to our students, our families, and our community continues to be the driving force behind our work. I am confident that as we get to the other side of the pandemic, we will emerge stronger than ever as we continue building this community of learners and leaders together.



Equity & Diversity

OHS DECA Students "Adopt a School"

It was a unique year for the DECA "Adopt a School" program, but our OHS students didn't let the pandemic prevent them from helping others. For the past 14 years, our DECA students have organized donations of necessities, gifts, winter clothing, and school supplies for schools with 95% or more of their students on the free and reduced lunch program.

With schools in Southeast Wisconsin operating in various learning formats this year, the DECA leaders decided to partner with the Waukesha County Christmas Clearing Council to sponsor children and families in Waukesha County and the Oconomowoc area. Over 150 children in Waukesha County received Christmas gifts through the Adopt a School program and our students, staff, families, and community's generosity.

“ Though 'Adopt A School' was a bit different than most years, we were still able to successfully give back to our community through teamwork and determination throughout these unprecedented times ”

Jordan, OHS Student



2019-2024 STRATEGIC PLAN DIRECTIONS



Educational Quality & Culture



Equity & Diversity



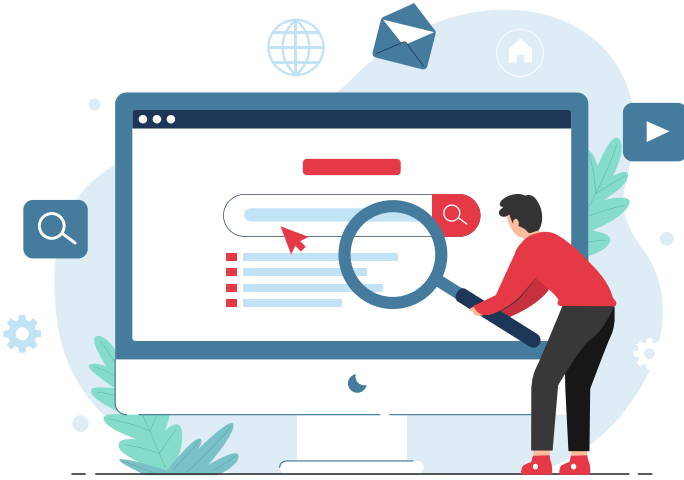
Personnel Excellence



Business & Financial Performance



Customer Care/Return on Investment



Keeping Families & the Community Informed

The District has worked to keep families and the community up to date on the state and county public health information that affects our schools' operations. There are several ways that families and the community can find information on learning strategies, health information, OASD Board of Education meetings, and support resources.

OASD COVID DASHBOARD

At their September 2, 2020, meeting, the OASD School Board reviewed the key indicators that can guide the Board's decision-making around learning models at all grade levels. Through Board meeting discussions and work with the Waukesha County Health Department, the OASD Administration developed a series of dashboards to display COVID-19 student and staff health data. Updates to this web page are made twice per week. These dashboards are available at www.oasd.org/COVIDDashboard.

OASD LEARNING HUB

You'll find the newest information on OASD learning schedules and the District's pandemic response on the OASD Learning Hub. You'll also find weekly updates, health information, and other important details for families. Visit the OASD Learning Hub at www.oasd.org/LearningHub.

OASD SCHOOL BOARD MEETING LIVE STREAM

You can watch the live stream video of all the Oconomowoc Area School District School Board regular meetings. Live video and previous meeting videos, along with School Board meeting schedules and agendas, are available at www.oasd.org/SchoolBoard.



DISCOVER OASD OPEN ENROLL TODAY!

The OASD offers a world-class education through a rigorous curriculum, award-winning programs, nationally certified staff, and opportunities for all students to reach their highest potential. Our mission is to empower a community of learners and leaders, and our vision to be an unrivaled learning community, seeking wisdom, honoring the past, and shaping the future.



STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-24

In 2019, we launched our new strategic plan containing aggressive key performance objectives and focus areas and related tactical plans. The tactical plans contain action items centered on making our vision to become an unrivaled learning community a reality.

GRADUATE PROFILE

The OASD Graduate Profile was developed alongside the Strategic Plan to better define the desired characteristics of an OASD graduate. From 4K through grade 12, our staff is oconDRIVEN to help develop students who are:

- Inquisitive and open-minded problem solvers
- Curious, reflective, and engaged learners
- Service-minded humanitarians
- Confident and articulate communicators
- Courageous and compassionate leaders
- Well-rounded members of our community

oconDRIVEN

Open Enrollment Period
February 1- April 30, 2021

For more information visit, www.oasd.org/Enroll

OASD IN THE NEWS!

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



Thirteen OHS Students Pass A*S*K Exam

Congratulations to thirteen Oconomowoc High School students who passed the A*S*K exam through the OHS High School of Business, Principles of Business class during Oconomowoc High School's first semester. The A*S*K Business Institute is an initiative of the MBA Research and Curriculum Center.

An A*S*K certification is a critical tool for serious business students who wish to document their understanding of business skills and their willingness to be accountable for their learning. It also makes a strong addition to their college applications and resumes.



OHS National Business Honor Society Hosted Drive-Thru Thanksgiving Service Project

The OHS National Business Honor Society hosted a drive-thru donation Thanksgiving service project to benefit the Women's Center of Waukesha. The group raised over \$250 and purchased Thanksgiving meals for three families as a result.



OHS Civil Engineering and Architecture Partners with Tim O'Brien Homes

Each school year, students in Mr. Jappinen's Civil Engineering and Architecture (CEA) class partner with Tim O'Brien Homes' design team to design a home using one of their lots and specifications. The CEA class's goal is to one day design the house that Mr. Olson's OHS Building Trades 3 class would build in the fall. This year's best design was awarded to Christian W.

OVLC and OHS Students Host "Feed the Dream" Food Drive

The OASD Ocon Virtual Learning Community (OVLC) students, families, and staff hosted a "Feed the Dream" food drive in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. OHS students in the 18-21 Transition Program helped to collect the food and organize it before they will deliver to local food banks.





ELEMENTARY NEWS

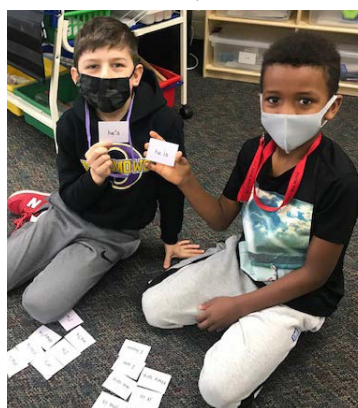


New Phonics Strategies For OASD Young Learners

Kindergarten through second-grade classrooms are in their first year of implementing a new Phonics program to support foundational skills of reading and writing. The Phonics Units of Study lessons offer engaging activities that include songs, chants, mascots, and games for students to practice these foundational skills. Lessons introduce students to important phonics concepts and provide instruction for students to be letter and word problem-solvers, word scientists, and superpower readers and writers.



In Kindergarten, students began the year studying familiar names to help become experts with letters and patterns. The playful approach to learning letters, sounds, and letter combinations continues through the year, emphasizing vowels and word parts.



“It has been amazing to see the transfer of phonics learning into both reading and writing with my second graders this year. We also LOVE Gus, our phonics-learning mascot-friend!”

Angie Cargill, Summit Elementary Second Grade Teacher

In First Grade, students focus on building more complex words and unpack the “Mystery of the Silent e.” First graders learn essential strategies to build and read longer, more complex words.

Second graders use all they know about word parts and vowels and vowel teams to lift the level of sophisticated strategies for tackling tricky words. In second grade, students become word collectors and use their phonics strategies to enhance vocabulary development.



INTERMEDIATE NEWS



Character Strong at OASD Intermediate Schools

Silver Lake and Nature Hill Intermediate Schools launched “Character Strong” this fall, a supplemental curriculum that promotes our intermediate students’ social and emotional growth. The Character Strong curriculum provides engaging learning opportunities to assist students as they develop their skills to navigate social and emotional situations each day. The curriculum focuses on honesty, humility, forgiveness, kindness, selflessness, commitment, respect, and patience.

Teachers work with students to create opportunities to not only learn about these traits but to practice them through daily occurrences that are part of the “middle school experience.” Character Strong also provides a component that asks students to practice applying these traits at home. The “family dares” are scenarios that allow families to engage in learning opportunities together while giving each family a chance to discuss their values and goals.

Our Intermediate School staff believe that Character Strong has provided age-appropriate, engaging opportunities that continue to build a kinder, more respectful school culture at both Nature Hill and Silver Lake.



Nature Hill Intermediate 8th-Grade leadership group meets during Nature Hill’s All School Read (ASR).



Nature Hill Intermediate students kick-off the all-school “How I Want to be Remembered” project. Students share traits about themselves that they want others to remember.



FALL & WINTER SPORTS

#oconPRIDE



Outstanding Fall Season for OHS Athletics

Our OHS athletes and coaches celebrated an incredible fall season with many accomplishments, including:

- The Girls Varsity Tennis Team earned a spot at Team State for the first time since 1995, only the third time they've played at State in school history
- The Boys Varsity Soccer Team won the Classic 8 Conference Championship
- The Girls Varsity Volleyball Team won the Classic 8 Conference Championship
- Four Varsity swimmers competed at State
- The Girls Varsity Golf Team finished 4th at regionals and 8th at sectionals

FALL SPORTS

29

OHS Fall Athletes Earn All-Conference

Congratulations to the 29 OHS student-athletes who earned All-Conference during the 2020 Fall athletic season!



Cross Country STATE CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to our Oconomowoc High School Boys Cross Country Team on earning the 2020 team State Championship! In the fall, they brought home the first Team State Championship for OHS since 1981.

OHS Girls Golf Team Named ACADEMIC ALL-STATE HONOREE

Congratulations to OHS Girls Varsity Golf team members Katie W., Reese R., Ella S., Paige W., Alex K., Grace K., and Maddie S. for being honored as Academic All-State. Students are nominated by coaches if they hold a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.25, participate in at least 75% of their team's varsity matches, and are in grades 10-12.



CLASSIC 8 SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

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

- Soccer-Head Coach Mike Beatty
- Girls Golf-Head Coach Jason Dahl

LIVESTREAM OHS WINTER SPORTS

Live stream links to watch many of the OHS winter sports are available on the OASD website. Visit, www.oasd.org/LiveStream.

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

WINTER SPORTS



Athletic Photo Credit: Stoneberg Sports Photography



OCTOBER 1, 2021

OCONOMOWOC COMMUNITY CENTER

OHS will hold its annual induction ceremony for the Athletic Hall of Fame on Saturday, October 1, 2021, at the Oconomowoc Community Center.

Visit www.oasd.org/HallOfFame for more information.



Join The Booster Club Today!

Joining the OSBC is a great way to support hundreds of athletes in the OASD. Membership to the OSBC is only \$25 per school year for a family, \$15 for an individual. Organizations and businesses can also join the OSBC for a \$25 annual fee. We could not do this without the support and generosity of the families and businesses in the OASD. To get involved as an OSBC volunteer, email osbc@oasd.org.

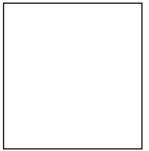
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OconSportsBoosterClub/>

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

OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD: FEBRUARY 1– APRIL 30, 2021

The Open Enrollment period is February 1 through April 30, 2021. 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.

915 E. Summit Ave.
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
262-560-1115



SUMMER SCHOOL

REGISTRATION

Registration for 5K - Grade 12: April 6, at 6:00 a.m. to April 18, 2021, at 12:00 a.m. (midnight). Course brochures, registration instructions, and payment information will be available at www.oasd.org/SummerSchool on March 18, 2021.

SAVE THE DATE



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

- 15 **OASD No School Students, Staff PD Day**
- 16 OASD School Board Meeting, OHS East Campus Board Room, 7 p.m.
- 27-31 **OASD Spring Break, No School**

APRIL

- 1-5 **OASD Spring Break, No School**
- 6-18 OASD Summer School 2021 Registration
- 20 OASD School Board Meeting, OHS East Campus Board Room, 7 p.m.

MAY

- 3 **OASD No School 4K Students**
- 4 OASD School Board Meeting, 6:45 p.m. Organizational Meeting of the Board, 7 p.m. Regular Board Meeting, OHS East Campus Board Room
- 18 OASD School Board Meeting, OHS East Campus Board Room, 7 p.m.
- 28 **OASD No School**
- 31 **Memorial Day, No School**

JUNE

- 9-10 OHS Final Exams
- 9 Last Day of School 4K Students
- 11 OHS Graduation Rehearsal
- 11 **Last Day of School 5K-12, Early Release**
- 12 **OHS Graduation**

Winter Indoor Running/Walking Times at OHS Fieldhouse

- Monday-Friday, from 6:00-6:45 a.m.
- Face coverings & social distancing required
- Please wear indoor walking/running shoes
- The program is only available on days that school is in session
- For OASD residents age 18 and older
- Visit www.oasd.org/BuildingsAndGrounds for more information

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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James Wood
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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 Translate@oasd.org.

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.