

Learners & Leaders

BECOMING AN UNRIVALED LEARNING COMMUNITY WWW.OASD.ORG



Educational Quality & Culture

OASD Staff & Students Shine During Emergency Remote Learning

The end of this school year was unprecedented and filled with unexpected challenges. Through those challenges, our students and staff found ways to shine and continue their learning in non-traditional ways.

Oconomowoc Area School District (OASD) Administration began reviewing the pandemic plan in February as news of the spread of the COVID-19 virus began to increase around the world. The original pandemic plan was developed in 2009 in response to the H1N1 virus and outlined district functions, core planning, implementation, and recovery in health services, instruction delivery, logistics, and district operations. All of those plans, however, needed to be modernized to fit the online and virtual tools and technology available today.

This advanced preparation and the existing pandemic plan made it possible for the OASD to transition to remote instruction on March 18, after Wisconsin schools were closed on March 13, 2020. The OASD provides a Chromebook for all students in grades 4-12, and those students were able to transition to virtual and online learning tools immediately. Students in grades 4K-3 did not have district-issued devices, so they were sent home on March 13 with paper materials to continue their learning. The OASD was able to offer devices to the students in grades 4K-3 who needed them and began virtual learning for these students on April 2.

“ Various instructional technology resources were already in place throughout the district, which aided in the transition to online learning. Teachers and students quickly found ways to use resources such as Seesaw, Google Classroom, Google Meet, and Zoom to connect virtually. ”

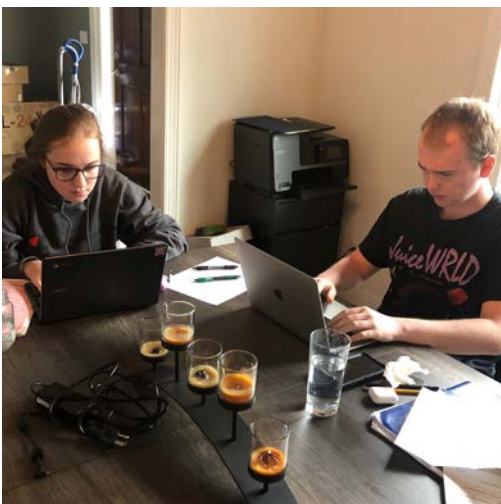
- Michele Koper,
Director of Instructional Technology & Innovation

Throughout the District, our staff worked tirelessly to reinvent teaching practices and routines in a virtual environment. They went above-and-beyond to ensure our students continued learning until the end of the school year.

SUMMIT ELEMENTARY MAKES TRADITIONS VIRTUAL

Summit Elementary hosts two iconic events during the Spring, the Wisconsin Program for the fourth-grade classes, and the Imagine A Day Field Trip to Lapham Peak for the entire school. The current remote learning environment made these traditions challenging, but the Summit Elementary staff and students worked hard and found exciting ways to shine.

(cont'd on pg. 3)





FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK



Roger J. Rindo, Ed.D
RindoR@oasd.org

Congratulations Class of 2020

It's fair to say that the 2019-20 school year was like no other. As a school district and as a community, we came together to address the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. I am so proud of our collective response. Students and families were provided support in ways that only Oconomowoc can. While it did not compare to the face-to-face experiences our students have on a regular basis, our emergency remote teaching supported student learning at a high level. It provided the social and emotional support made increasingly necessary by the challenges of this new environment.

School closure over their final three months of school was certainly not the way our seniors at the Oconomowoc High School planned to finish their high school careers. Still, the class of 2020 finished strong and demonstrated the grit and resilience that leaves them well-prepared for successful futures in multiple pathways. This group of 407 graduates have distinguished themselves well in the classroom, the Arts, and athletics. Their accomplishments were celebrated in a variety of creative ways despite the challenges of the school closures.

The class of 2020 earned over \$8.5 million in scholarships, exceeded by \$3 million in the previous high total for a graduating class at OHS. On behalf of the School Board, I want to thank all of our local donors, the Oconomowoc Area Foundation, and the Oconomowoc Scholarship Fund for their continued and generous support. Congratulations to Julie Bink, who was named Valedictorian, and Rachel Oelsner, who was named Salutatorian.

Over 85% of the class of 2020 plans to attend a four-year or two-year college and will have graduates attending colleges across the country with an emphasis on medicine, engineering and biomedical engineering, business, education, the visual and performing arts, and many other areas. Ten graduates from this class have made the brave and honorable commitment to serve our country in the U.S. Armed Forces. Still, other graduates are headed directly to the world of work as part of a certified apprenticeship program in the trades, including electrical, construction, HVAC, and others.

This graduating class is a group of young men and women who have left quite an impact on Oconomowoc High School. They have represented themselves, their school, and the community very well and handled the pandemic crisis that ended their senior year early with confidence and grace. I am certain they will continue to grow as learners and leaders, and I look forward to watching them build an impressive legacy before they are through.

Congratulations and best wishes to the class of 2020!



Customer Care/
Return on Investment

Community Partnerships Shine During Emergencies

The OASD is proud to be part of the Oconomowoc community, and during these challenging times, we've been recipients of many donations from community members and organizations. The OASD also partnered with several organizations to offer a helping hand.



YMCA and OASD Partner to Provide Childcare for Community Essential Workers

On March 23, the OASD partnered with The YMCA at Pabst Farms to offer child care services specifically for health care workers, police officers, firefighters, and EMT's at Summit Elementary School. The YMCA provided the staffing, and OASD handled the cleaning and disinfecting of the areas used in the building nightly.



Meals Matter Movement

Thank you to the Oconomowoc community for helping OASD and OHS support the Meals Matter Movement. During the OHS #OconPride Virtual Pep Rally in April, the community donated funds for over 300 meals which were delivered to local healthcare professionals.



2019-2024 STRATEGIC PLAN DIRECTIONS



Educational
Quality
& Culture



Equity &
Diversity



Personnel
Excellence



Business
& Financial
Performance



Customer Care/
Return on
Investment

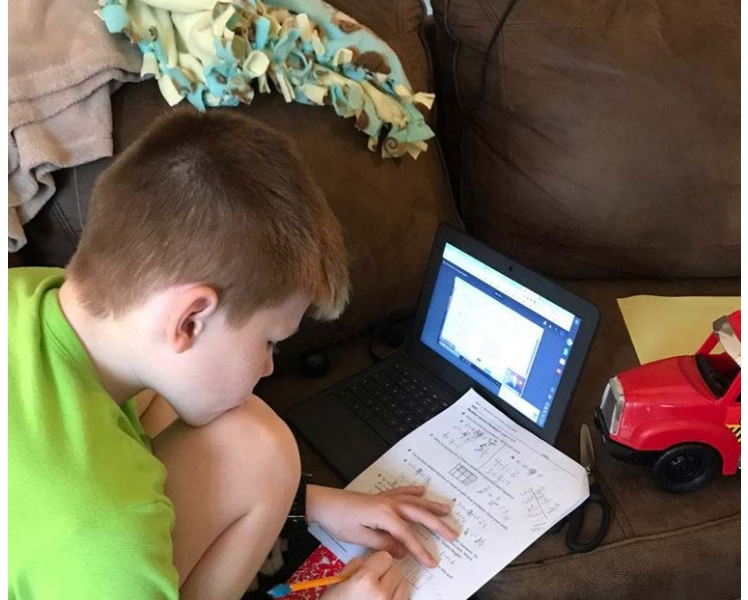
The Wisconsin Program is a cooperative effort between the Summit Fourth Grade Teachers, Jenny Moylan, Courtney Rowe, and Jason Schnoor, Learning Strategist Allie Nault, Music Teacher, Deb Berg, and Physical Education Teacher, Mike Dirkmann. This group leads the fourth-graders to showcase what they have learned about the history of Wisconsin through song, dance, and dialogue. This project is unique because every single fourth-grade student contributes something to the program. Jason Schnoor said, "I feel that one of the biggest reasons why the WI Program has been around for such a long time, and that we felt it was important enough to do virtually is that it allows every fourth-grader to shine. Every student has an equal part in telling Wisconsin's story in a fun and unique way." Courtney Rowe added, "Every single fourth grader did an amazing job. I was proud of all of the fourth graders going through this experience with us and ultimately making something special!"

To recreate this program virtually, the team used several tools and virtual platforms, as Mrs. Berg explained, "We used YouTube, Seesaw, iMovie, and Zoom to record singers and speakers. I recorded myself singing and playing the songs on the piano to give the students support of the songs. They practiced and then recorded themselves singing while listening through earphones to my accompaniment."

The fourth-grade teachers planned practice times and recording schedules, then worked with students to write their scripts and create a final video of all of the student performances.

The Imagine A Day all-school field trip to Lapham Peak is an annual tradition sponsored by The Imagine A Day Courtney Bella Foundation. The Summit Elementary School Specialists plan the field trip. These specialists are STEM Integrator Wendy Harrop, Physical Education Teacher Mike Dirkmann, Music Teacher Deb Berg, and Art Teacher Jill LaGrange.

Wendy Harrop explained some of the things that make this trip so unique. "There are a few traditional components of the trip that are particularly meaningful - the integrated arts/nature walk through the woods, which features our guest artists and performers from OHS and the Oconomowoc community.



Other components include the giant picnic lunch on the lawn together, where the classes read aloud, have scavenger hunts, and play games. The reading of Courtney Bella's poem reminds the school why we make this trip and introduce them to the Imagine A Day Foundation. Finally, the all-school concert in the amphitheater closes out the day. We wanted to keep these events as part of the experience."

As a team, the specialists considered several formats, deciding to create a video experience with opportunities for families to continue learning through arts and crafts activities, nature scavenger hunt, and environmental education resources. Mrs. Harrop described the collaboration that made the virtual experience possible. "We went through a few ideas before coming up with the final format. As we talked about what that would be like, the pieces all fell together to recreate the day using only a few clips from previous years, giving the students a unique experience this year. One of us filmed the hike, one gathered and inserted clips of OHS artists sharing their expertise, one created the lunch experience, one recorded the introduction to the day, and one recorded the poem. We then used clips from previous group concerts in the amphitheater. The result came together beautifully, in our opinion!"

The virtual experiences can't replace the live events, but the collaboration and innovation of Summit staff kept these important traditions alive.

OASD Staff Appreciation



Personnel Excellence

OASD teachers and staff have had an extraordinary last half of the school year filled with experiences and challenges they could never have imagined.

Thank You to all of our OASD staff members for their hard work in these unprecedented times.



OASD IN THE NEWS!

2019-2020 BREAKS RECORD

OASD Seniors received a new record amount in scholarships in the 2019-2020 school year.

\$8,507,334

RECEIVED IN SCHOLARSHIP MONEY.

PROFILE OF OUR 2020 GRADUATES:

407 GRADS

AP

13 AP CLASSES OFFERED

291

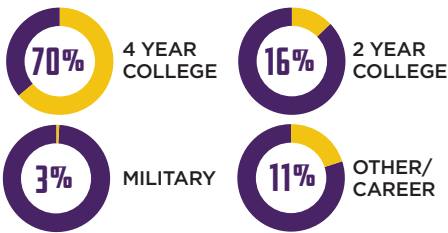
AP exams taken by 194 Seniors in 2018-19

19 IB COURSES OFFERED*



*IB tests did not take place in the spring of 2020 due to COVID-19. Students completed IB courses for potential college credit. Post graduation percentages are based on those who responded to the post graduation survey.

2020 POST GRADUATION



Class of 2020 Commencement

Given current Wisconsin Department of Health Services and Department of Public Instruction guidelines about crowd size restrictions and graduation specifically, it is unlikely we can hold a large scale gathering this summer. Therefore, OHS has decided to delay the ceremony until later this summer.

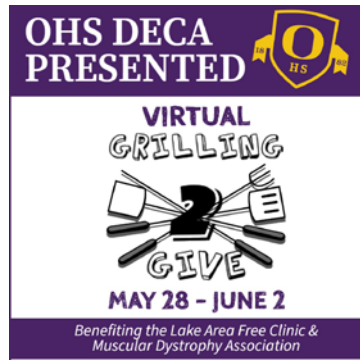
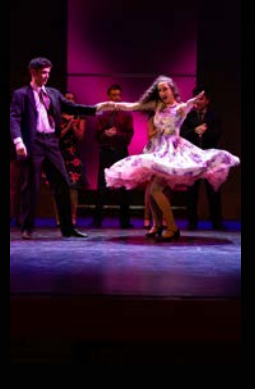
Saturday, August 1, 2020, with a tentative start time of 9:00 a.m.

Additional information or any changes will be shared on our website at www.oasd.org/Graduation.



West Side Story Jerry Award Recognition

The Oconomowoc High School production of West Side Story has been awarded 13 Jerry Awards, including Outstanding Musical! This is the 10th time in 11 years that our OHS Players have been recognized for musical theater excellence.



Annual Grilling 2 Give Goes Virtual

Oconomowoc High School DECA has hosted Grilling 2 Give, an annual spring cookout, every year since 2003. Grilling 2 Give brings OASD and the community together, supporting charitable organizations, and efforts resulted in raising over \$100,000 for a variety of charities since 2003. This spring, DECA faced an unusual challenge in trying to continue this tradition while students and staff learned remotely. This year, DECA hosted Virtual Grilling 2 Give, to raise money for the Lake Area Free Clinic and Muscular Dystrophy Association.



CONGRATULATIONS,

OHS 2020 Valedictorian, Julia Bink, and Salutatorian, Rachel Oelsner



Valedictorian, Julia Bink, will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the fall to pursue a degree in neuroscience and psychology. She looks forward to being involved in student organizations that focus on volunteerism and plans to play intramural soccer.

“Oconomowoc High School has a lot of rigorous classes and many great teachers who pushed me to do my best,” said Julie. She added, “My favorite memory at Oconomowoc is the football games that brought everyone together.”

“I would like to thank my parents for continuously supporting me and Mr. Bakkum, my high school advisor, for pushing me academically and believing in me,” Julia concluded.



Salutatorian, Rachel Oelsner, will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in the fall to pursue a degree in geography and urban planning. She hopes to continue playing trumpet and continue her involvement in the Best Buddies program.

“I believe that the number of AP and IB classes that I was able to take while in high school helped prepare me for college. OHS teachers, particularly those teaching advanced courses, have high expectations for students, but are willing to do anything to help students succeed,” said Rachel. She added, “By allowing me to build meaningful connections with my teachers and classmates, OHS has provided me a great support system that I know I can always look back on later in life.”

“I would like to thank my parents for always supporting me with my goals and activities. I owe a thank you to all of my teachers, but I would especially like to recognize Mrs. Ryan-Lofy for her dedication to all students. She has been someone who has demonstrated empathy in the classroom while pushing her students to achieve great things. I also want to thank my friends who have been with me since the beginning of high school and have seen me at my best and my worst,” Rachel concluded.

“ I am so proud of all our graduates! No matter what their plans are after graduation, I know that they will represent our school and community well. We should all be proud to be part of their journey. Congratulations to the class of 2020! ”

Jason Curtis, OHS Principal



SPRING SPORTS #OCONPRIDE

» Thank you for a great 2019-20 school year!

Classic 8 Sportsmanship Award

Congratulations to the OHS winter sports and coaches who were awarded Classic 8 Conference Sportsmanship Awards.

- Boys Basketball
- Girls Basketball
- KMMO Hockey

OHS Varsity Boys Basketball Team Academic All-State Team Award

Congratulations to the OHS Boys Varsity Basketball team on their 2019-20 Academic All-State Team Award.

2019-20 Freeman Girls Basketball Team Honors

Congratulations to the OHS Girls Varsity Basketball team on their 2019-20 All-Freeman Girls Basketball Team selections.

- OHS senior Olivia Sobczak- Co-Player of the Year
- OHS Bob Shea- Coach of the Year
- OHS junior Liz Cleary- Fourth Team

WIAA 2020 Statewide Scholar Athlete Award

Congratulations to OHS Senior, Alex Vance who was selected as a Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) 2020 Statewide Scholar Athlete!

OHS Girls Girls Golf Academic All-State Honorable Mention

Congratulations to the OHS Girls Golf Team who were recipients of the 2019 Girls' Team Academic All-State Honorable Mention. Teams had to have a 3.25 team GPA to qualify for this recognition.

Two OHS Seniors Selected for WBCA All Star Game

Congratulations to OHS Seniors Caleb Flatten Moore and Olivia Sobczak who were selected for the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association All Star Game in August.

OHS Interim Head Football Coach Announced

The OHS Athletic Department is excited to announce that Mr. Sal Logue has accepted the position of Interim Head Football Coach for the 2020 season. Coach Logue has served as Defensive Coordinator on the OHS Raccoon Football team for the last three seasons and is currently a health teacher on the OHS faculty.

Recognizing Our Spring Athletes

Even though our students didn't get to compete in spring sports, we want them to know how proud we are of their positive attitudes, hard work, and perseverance. For our seniors, this has been an especially difficult end to the school year and their final year of high school athletics. OHS hosted a Spring Sports Senior Night on June 1 for families and community members to drive-thru a gallery of senior athlete banners grouped by spring sport with the support of the Oconomowoc Sports Booster Club.

End of Year Celebrations



HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS

As OHS made plans for the end of the year, it became clear that it would be hard to continue some long-standing traditions. While the events and traditions this year looked different, OHS held virtual celebrations recognizing the amazing Raccoons in the class of 2020.

Community Support

The celebrations for the Class of 2020 could not have been so incredible without the support of our OHS families, the City of Oconomowoc, Oconomowoc Utilities, our local businesses, and the staff members who volunteered countless hours. Thank you for celebrating our graduates!

- **ARTS DRIVE**
- **CAP & GOWN PICK UP**
- **STARS & LIGHTS DOWNTOWN**
- **CAR PARADE**
- **YARD SIGNS**



INTERMEDIATE CELEBRATIONS



8th-Grade Raccoon Launch

Our OASD 8th-graders concluded their school year with a non-traditional send-off to high school. Both schools hosted a Raccoon Launch, with a lot of excitement and encouragement for our newest OHS Raccoons.



ELEMENTARY CELEBRATIONS



Drive-In and Move On: 4th-Grade Celebrations

OASD 4th-graders celebrated their "Moving On" day a little differently this year, but still got a fond farewell and celebration from their teachers and staff.



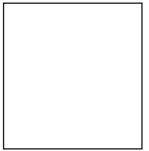
Summit Elementary School WI Title I School of Recognition

Summit Elementary School is one of only seven schools in Wisconsin to be named as High-Achieving and High-Progress in the 2020 Wisconsin Title 1 Schools of Recognition award from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). Only 107 schools in the state received Wisconsin Title 1 School of Recognition honors for the 2019-20 school year. The Schools of Recognition award is presented to schools leveraging federal Title 1 funding to provide additional resources and services to economically disadvantaged students.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



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



UPDATE

OASD Virtual Summer Skills Workshops

On May 19, the OASD made the difficult decision to cancel our in-person Summer School program because of the current COVID-19 guidelines regarding permissible gathering sizes. Instead of our traditional programs, we transitioned to remote learning, targeted for students with lagging skills in reading and math for grades K-8, and credit-based courses that were already online or credit recovery courses for grades 9-12.

SAVE THE DATE

2020-21 Online Registration

Online Registration for the 2020-21 school year will open on July 6, 2020, and will occur within the Skyward Family Access system. Many details about Online Registration, including the registration closing date, resources for in-person assistance, and back-to-school information is not yet available. Additional information will be shared with OASD families by email throughout the Summer and will also be posted on our website at www.oasd.org/SchoolRegistration.

FALL PLANNING

2020-21 School Year Return Plan

The OASD has been preparing for the start of the 2020-21 school year for several months, working to determine the best options for student and staff learning, safety, and health. We don't know what lies ahead with the COVID-19 pandemic, but the district, together with the School Board, will make final decisions based on the most current guidance. In general, there are three scenarios for which OASD is planning for student return in the fall: full face-to-face learning, a hybrid blend of virtual and in-person learning and full virtual learning.



Personnel Excellence

HAPPY RETIREMENT

The Oconomowoc Area School District thanks our 2019-20 retirees for their dedication to our students and families, we will miss you!

- Lisa Dawes
- Lori Ellis
- Michele Grothaus
- Sarah Howells
- Robert Ignaszak
- Thomas Showen
- Beth Guenther

Thank You!

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

22 OASD Virtual Summer Skills Workshops begin

JULY

6 OASD Online Registration begins

3 No Summer Skills Workshops

31 OASD Virtual Summer Skills Workshops end

AUGUST

18 OASD School Board Regular Meeting, OHS East
Campus Wilkinson Board Room, 7 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

1 First Day of School



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.