

# Learners & Leaders

WWW.OASD.ORG

BECOMING AN UNRIVALED LEARNING COMMUNITY



## The Oconomowoc Area School District, a leader in Universal Design for Learning

The Oconomowoc Area School District (OASD) is committed to *Empowering a Community of Learners and Leaders*. One of the ways we fulfill that mission is by leading the way in our region and state in the implementation of Universal Design for Learning (UDL). On August 14-16, the OASD hosted an empowering and inspiring three-day UDL Academy entitled “Every Student Has a Story.” Over 240 OASD teachers and staff, 100 participants from 10 surrounding districts (Elmbrook, New Berlin, Pewaukee, Greenfield, Iron River, Sussex, Watertown, Menomonee Falls, Sheboygan Falls, and Richmond), along with WI Department of Public Instruction members, gathered together to collaboratively learn, share, and increase UDL practices to better meet the needs of all learners.

### WHAT IS UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING (UDL)?

UDL is based on neuroscience and brain research that tells us that the way we learn is as unique as our fingerprints. No two people learn the same way. Classrooms today consist of students of varying economic status, abilities, ethnicity, religion, gender, race, and disability. UDL is a framework educators use to proactively plan for and address the variability of students, within their teaching, to benefit as many learners as possible. UDL provides equity, access, and empowerment for all students.

(cont'd on pg. 7)

“Oconomowoc is a committed UDL Expert Learner Organization! I came away “changed”. Together, we can advance connecting every learner to learning and improve the lives of teachers and students through UDL across the state of WI and beyond.”

Jane Bischoff  
 Department of Public Instruction

“The UDL Academy was an amazing learning experience for myself and the staff in Oconomowoc!”

Shannon McCaffery  
 Greenland Elementary

“The UDL Academy had such great enthusiasm, and useful resources and practical examples and stories. I really like I’m taking something away that I can and will use in my classroom and in co-teaching.”

OASD Teacher



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

## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK BUILDING AN UNRIVALED LEARNING COMMUNITY

The 2018-19 school year is off to a fantastic start, with nearly 5,250 students and 40 new faculty members. Very little can match the energy and excitement that a new school year brings!

This summer was a busy one as the new construction and renovation at Ixonia Elementary was completed, along with the renovation of Oconomowoc High School (OHS) East Campus and the Career and Technical Education Classrooms at OHS Main Campus. The District held dedications and open houses for these new and renovated spaces in September. Besides daytime instructional use, these facilities have allowed for expanded opportunities for both students and staff. In late September, OHS East and Main Campus hosted approximately 100 teachers, students, and administrators from six local school districts to share practices related to our Center for Advanced Professional Studies (CAPS) work. Later in November, OHS East Campus will host a problem-solving competition event called a "Hack-A-Thon," where students will work in teams to design a solution to a problem. Teams will be comprised of students from different CAPS programs from across the state and Midwest, and solutions will be pitched to a panel of industry professional judges.

In addition to our completed projects from the 2016 referendum, we are well underway with the construction of the new Meadow View Elementary School. That project is currently on target to be completed and ready for students next fall.

We also began the school year with a new core science program at the K-5 level called *Carolina Building Blocks of Science*, and *Amplify Science*, in grades 6-8. The Carolina curriculum progression begins with a "phenomenon" anchor, which launches hands-on lessons, and the units balance engaging labs with analytical reasoning to help students form their solutions to defined problems. Resources in the *Amplify* program will provide our teachers with a strong balance of digital access, with hands-on exploration to allow students to "do science," rather than merely observe it. This program also integrates essential literacy and math standards to ensure students are connecting science to other disciplines. We are excited to monitor how these programs prepare our students for our high school science and engineering pathways.

With a genuine commitment to all learners succeeding at increasingly higher levels, we continue to focus on college, career, and life readiness with a dedicated team of faculty, staff, and administration. This District is such a special place. I am looking forward to another excellent year of learning and growth in 2018-19.



## OCONOMOWOC PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Park Lawn Elementary School recently expanded their curriculum with "Motor Skills for Academic Success," a 2017-18 grant from the Oconomowoc Public Education Foundation (OPEF). Led by Laura Mattes-Schleicher and Kolina Koszycki, the program engages students in playful physical activities that promote the development of their sensory and motor skills.

OPEF raises and provides funds for innovative educational opportunities and experiences not funded in the core school district budget. Through fundraising and the generosity of donors, these grants give educators the opportunity to creatively enhance curriculum. To date, OPEF has raised nearly \$1,000,000 towards classroom grants, drug, and alcohol abuse prevention programming, and the completion of the PACE Fund, a \$545,000 commitment to fund the enhancements to the Oconomowoc Arts Center. For more information on supporting OPEF, please visit [www.opef.info](http://www.opef.info).



# Welcome New Staff



**#1** Continuous Improvement in Academic Performance

**#2** Innovative Instructional Programs

**#3** Creating a Great Workplace with Highly Engaged Employees

**#4** High Quality Facilities with 21st Century Learning Environments

**#5** Respecting the Diversity Among People and Cultures

FACILITIES & CONSTRUCTION UPDATES PROJECT UPDATE



**IXONIA ELEMENTARY DEDICATION/OPEN HOUSE**  
 Community members joined the staff, parents, and students in celebrating the completion of Ixonia Elementary School on September 23. Staff and students led the event with a dedication ceremony, followed by a community open house. Community members were able to tour the newly renovated building and new addition. Thank you to everyone who joined the celebration of this renovated facility, made possible through the community's support for the 2016 referendum.



**OHS EAST CAMPUS & MAIN CAMPUS DEDICATION/OPEN HOUSE**  
 Thank you to everyone who joined in the Dedication Celebration on September 30, at OHS East Campus and OHS Main Campus. This event celebrated the completion of the OHS Main Campus and East Campus facility projects, made possible through the community's support for the 2016 referendum. The dedication and community open house also helped us kick-off OHS Homecoming Week and included performances by the OHS Pep Band and choir students, and tours of classrooms led by staff and students.



Meadow View Elementary Construction Photo Credit: Mark Miller

**MEADOW VIEW ELEMENTARY**  
 The new Meadow View Elementary School is growing and changing every day! Structural steel in the 4K-5K wing is nearly complete and the roof deck is in-place, with interior wall framing now underway. Concrete for the gym floor has been poured and exterior brick application is also underway. Structural steel in the grade 1-4 wing and roof decking are also nearly complete.



**OASD District Offices Have Moved**  
 The District offices are now located at OHS East Campus:  
 915 E. Summit Avenue  
 Oconomowoc, WI 53066

**IMPORTANT CONSTRUCTION DATES**

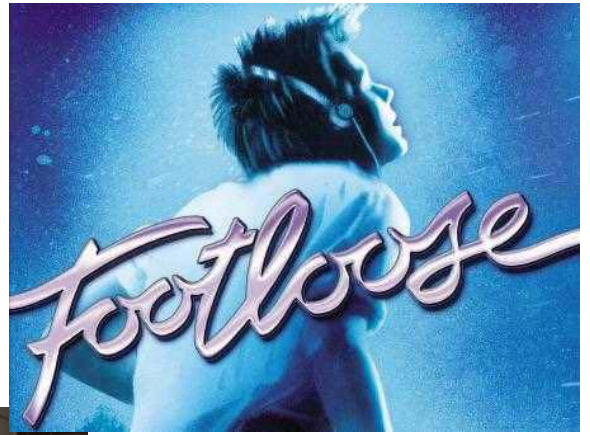


June 2019	September 2019
Current Meadow View Closing Ceremony	New Meadow View Dedication Celebration

**VISIT HERE** View live photos of the Meadow View construction progress and find project updates at [www.oasd.org/BuildingOurFuture](http://www.oasd.org/BuildingOurFuture).

# OASD IN THE NEWS!

## HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



### OHS “Jerry Award-Winning” Theater Program presents *Footloose*, November 10, 11, 15-17

*Footloose* is the story of Ren, a high school student who loves to dance. He’s uprooted from Chicago to Bomont, Texas, where there are rules against dancing that are enforced by the local preacher. The preacher’s daughter, Ariel, helps Ren push back against what seems to be a ridiculous law. The show has touching stories of love and loss, parent-child relationships, growing joys and pains and facing troubled pasts and fears. It is set in the 80s with a memorable soundtrack and will be fun for everyone! **Get your tickets today at [www.theoac.net](http://www.theoac.net)!**



### OHS FFA Receives Donation from Oconomowoc Fleet Farm

Students from the Oconomowoc High School chapter of Future Farmers of America (FFA), and faculty advisor, Marge Waite, recently accepted a generous donation from Fleet Farm. They received a new trailer for hauling water to the pollinator plot at the school farm, and a tiller that will allow them to work the land for additional planting.



### OHS Building Trades III Groundbreaking

The Oconomowoc High School Building Trades III Class joined the groundbreaking ceremony for the new home they’ll be helping to build, in partnership with Tim O’Brien Homes. Since 2008, OHS Teacher Steve Olson has partnered with Tim O’Brien Homes Inc., to provide a hands-on home building experience to students. This real-world experience can put students on the path to apprenticeship programs or further engineering, design or trades education after graduation. The building site is located in the Lake Country Village-Pabst Farms, and students will work alongside professional tradespeople for the duration of the project.



### Oconomowoc AFS

Oconomowoc AFS would like to introduce you to this year’s exchange students at Oconomowoc High School (from back to front and left to right):Pablo (Costa Rica), Anthony (Ghana), Bence (Hungary), Ye Yao (Germany), Veronika (Czech Republic), Matilde (Italy), and Marlyn (Mozambique).



## #2 STRATEGIC DIRECTION

# OHS East Campus: A Dynamic Educational Environment

Oconomowoc High School's new East Campus is a modern, 21st-century learning environment, but it's not a space commonly found on a High School campus. The open concept of the area lends itself to collaboration, energy, and flexibility, which is a new approach for public schools, but increasingly common sight in professional offices and college campuses. At OHS East Campus, we're already seeing the positive effects of offering this kind of environment for our students.



OHS teacher Michael Krill offered an explanation of the impact this new facility is having on students, staff, and the community. "We want to offer students a glimpse of what life is like beyond high school and prepare them to venture into the real world. OHS East Campus is designed to allow for the type of instruction, interaction, collaboration, and movement one would see in many

universities and businesses across the country. Also, these atmospheric aesthetics allow for the methods and style of instruction that encourage students to explore different ways of spending their time in an educational facility where options, space, professional interactions, and global mindset are part of the daily experience," Krill explained.

"OHS students experience a unique learning environment at OHS East Campus that includes fluid access to breakout spaces and working alongside one another. Most days of the week visitors will see local business leaders meeting in conference rooms, students working collaboratively on class projects and presentations, and community partners speaking in classrooms. This facility allows teachers to model the types of decision-making skills and working styles that professionals have, including shared spaces, access to conference rooms, collaborative spaces, technology, and digital equipment," he added.

### OHS EAST CAMPUS INNOVATIVE CLASSES

- Project Lead the Way Human Body Systems
- Literature and Film
- Advertising and Design
- Seminar & Digital Communications
- AP Government and Politics
- Game Design
- Psychology
- AP Statistics
- 18-21 Transition Program



## INTERMEDIATE NEWS

# Celebrating 10 years

Let's Celebrate! Nature Hill Intermediate (NHI) and Silver Lake Intermediate (SLI) Schools will be spending this school year celebrating ten years of student achievement, growth, and building an unrivaled learning community for students in grades 5-8. Thank you to the Oconomowoc Community for supporting the 2008 referendum which allowed the district to build these schools.

To begin the celebration, SLI held an all school, all community carnival on September 14. The SLI community enjoyed a night of carnival games, face painting, food, family, and fun. NHI's celebration will include a time capsule with short stories about the impact NHI has had on our community. NHI held an essay contest in October and the ten-year anniversary committee is reviewing the entries. The top three pieces will be included in the final capsule, to be opened in 2028.





# FALL SPORTS

## #OCONPRIDE

The Raccoon Fall Sports Season is in full swing and we hope you come out to cheer them on!

### Go Raccoons!

#### Announcing the New Oconomowoc High School Athletic Hall of Fame

OHS will hold its inaugural induction ceremony for the new Athletic Hall of Fame on Friday, May 10, 2019, at the Oconomowoc Community Center. For more information, visit [www.oasd.org/HallOfFame](http://www.oasd.org/HallOfFame)

#### Congratulations Coach Kopps!

OHS Girls Gymnastics Coach, Jon Kopps, has been selected by the Wisconsin Gymnastics Coaches Association as the recipient of the 2017-18 NFHS Coaches Association Girls Gymnastics Coach of the Year Award for Wisconsin.

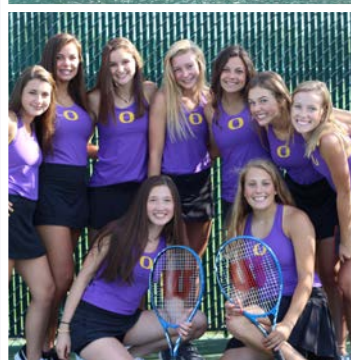
#### Thank You Community, Athletes & Coaches!

The Oconomowoc Sports Booster Club would like to thank the community, student-athletes, and coaches who supported the Cooney Card Blitz. The one day event raised approximately \$16,000 which will support our high school and middle school athletic programs.

Stoneberg Sports Photos

#### INTERESTED IN A COONEY CARD?

Additional cards are available for purchase at the OHS Athletic Department, and home basketball games.



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

# 2018 HOMECOMING

## OHANA OCON-A: WHERE OCON MEANS FAMILY



2018 Homecoming Court



## 1st Annual Raccoon Rally September 7, 2018



OASD, a leader in UDL continued from pg. 1

### UDL IS BASED ON THREE BRAIN NETWORKS AND THREE GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

#### PROVIDE MULTIPLE MEANS OF ENGAGEMENT

Multiple ways learners can be engaged, stay motivated, challenged, excited or interested, to persist in learning.

**AFFECTIVE NETWORKS:**  
The "**WHY**" of Learning

#### PROVIDE MULTIPLE MEANS OF ENGAGEMENT

Offering multiple ways learners gather facts and categorize what they see, hear, and read.

**AFFECTIVE NETWORKS:**  
The "**WHAT**" of Learning

#### PROVIDE MULTIPLE MEANS OF ACTION & EXPRESSION

Offering multiple ways learners can plan, organize, and express their ideas.

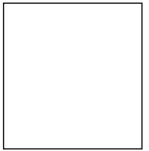
**AFFECTIVE NETWORKS:**  
The "**HOW**" of Learning

The basis of the UDL framework comes from the concept of universal design in architecture, where buildings are proactively designed to meet the needs of as many people as possible. For example, a universally designed structure will include automatic faucets, elevators, ramps, and automatic doors which benefit specific users, like someone in a wheelchair. However, the design also has benefits for all users, like a person pushing a stroller, a UPS delivery person, and others. UDL takes the concept of universal design and applies it to the world of education.

The beauty of the UDL framework is that it can be applied across any content area and context. The ultimate goal of providing universally designed learning experiences is to foster and develop expert learners who are purposeful, motivated, engaged, resourceful, knowledgeable, strategic, and goal-directed. The UDL framework empowers learners to understand why, what, and how they learn best.



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



We've  
**MOVED!**

## OASD District Offices Have Moved

The District offices are now  
located at OHS East Campus:  
915 E. Summit Avenue  
Oconomowoc, WI 53066



## Thank You! "Stuff the Bus"

Special thanks to our local  
Lions Club for collecting  
school supplies for OASD  
families this August.



**OCONOMOWOC**  
HIGH SCHOOL

## HONORING OUR PAST, SHAPING OUR FUTURE

Graduates of Oconomowoc High School (OHS) have gone on to make extraordinary contributions to their careers, family, and community! If you're an OHS alumni, we'd like to hear more about your accomplishments and life news. Send us an update at [www.oasd.org/Alumni](http://www.oasd.org/Alumni).

### 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.

Kim Herro  
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### TRANSLATION STATEMENT

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.

## Winter Indoor Running/Walking Times at OHS Fieldhouse

- Beginning November 28, 2018
- Monday-Friday, from 6:00-7:00 a.m.
- Please wear indoor running/walking shoes
- This program will only be available when school is in session
- For OASD residents age 18 and older
- Visit [www.oasd.org/BuildingsandGrounds](http://www.oasd.org/BuildingsandGrounds) for more information



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NOVEMBER

- 2 . . . . . Oconomowoc Public Education Foundation Annual Ball, Golden Mast Inn
- 5 . . . . . Part 2: Collective Community Identity Conversations- Overview of Educational Equity at OHS East Campus
- 10-11, 15-17 OHS Musical *Foot/oose* Performances at OAC
- 13 . . . . . OASD School Board Meeting, OHS East Campus
- 21-25 . . . . OASD No School, Thanksgiving Break
- 26 . . . . . OASD No School, Teacher Development Day

### DECEMBER

- 11 . . . . . OASD School Board Meeting, OHS East Campus
- 22-31 . . . . OASD Winter Break- No School

### JANUARY

- 1 . . . . . OASD Winter Break- No School
- 15 . . . . . OASD School Board Meeting
- 18 . . . . . OASD No School, Teacher Development