



MAY  
2018

# ORISKANY

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BUDGET EDITION

VOLUME 40 ISSUE 04 - WWW.ORISKANYCSD.ORG

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#### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
P: 315.768.2149  
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HIGH SCHOOL  
P: 315.768.2063  
F: 315.768.2046

DISTRICT OFFICE  
P: 315.768.2058  
F: 315.768.2057



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## Oriskany CSD Valedictorian and Salutatorian Announced

**Joy Armstrong**, daughter of Jim and Rene Armstrong, has been named the Oriskany Central School Class of 2018 Valedictorian. Joy has received many accolades during her time at OCS, including the Elmira College Key Award, the University of Rochester Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award, Student of the Month, Perfect Attendance for New Visions, and multiple Academic Achievement awards. Joy has been involved in the New Visions: Education program during her senior year and aspires to become either a kindergarten or first grade teacher at a local school. In addition to maintaining top grades in her academic program, Joy also spends time as a volunteer firefighter in the Oriskany Fire Department, working at Oriska Insurance and being involved in the OCS National Honor Society. Outside of school, Joy enjoys spending time with friends and family -- especially her nephew Zeke -- and "going on adventures and discovering new things." Next year Joy will be attending SUNY Oneonta for Early Childhood/Childhood Education (Birth-6). Congratulations, Joy!



**Maegan Fish**, daughter of Jay and Shari Fish, has been named the Oriskany Central School Class of 2018 Salutatorian. Maegan has been the recipient of the Dr. Charles Sykes Christian Service Award, Student of the Month Award in January 2015, the Whitestown Optimist Student of the Month in February 2018 and multiple Outstanding Academic Achievement awards. Maegan is very involved in extracurricular activities, both at OCS and in the community, including band, Language Club, newspaper, golf team, church choir and church youth group. She has been an active member of FIRST Robotics for the past eight years and has gone to the FIRST Super-Regionals four times and to World's twice. Last year, her team was one of the top four teams in the world. Outside of school, Maegan likes to read, play the violin and work at Kohl's. Next year, Maegan will be attending the University of Rochester to study Cognitive Science and plans to work in the artificial intelligence or research fields. Congratulations, Maegan!



**PLEASE  
VOTE**

**Budget Hearing**  
May 8, 2018  
6:00 p.m.  
District Office

**Budget Vote**  
May 15, 2018  
Noon – 8:30 p.m.  
Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School



## Dear Oriskany Central School District Community Members,

The school year is quickly coming to a close. The days, thankfully, are becoming longer and brighter with warmer weather soon to be on the horizon. Time goes by so quickly that we barely have time to stop, pause and recognize all of the wonderful and amazing things our students have accomplished. I am excited to see our students continue on with the remainder of the school year as spring sports progress, music concerts and fine art performances take place, local and state exams begin and graduation paves the way toward the summer months.

There is much to celebrate within the Oriskany School District in regard to students, staff and our own beloved Oriskany community. Respectfully, I would like to note a few celebrations, accolades and accomplishments.

Thirty of our Oriskany juniors attended their first ever National College Fair, hosted by Onondaga Community College in Syracuse, on March 15. Over 200 colleges from across the United States were in attendance. Students were able to meet and network with many different college representatives from across the nation to discuss their college and career pathways.

Artistically speaking, our school musical, Cinderella, was excellent. The performances given by our student actors and actresses were very well done. The direction, props, costumes, makeup and all of the behind-the-scenes planning and preparation contributed to a spectacular performance. It was nice to see our students expressing their creativity through the arts. As always, the Oriskany community was out in full support, filling the Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium for each performance.

Our Technology Club recently traveled to the Jacob Javits Convention Center in New York City to exercise their innovative skill set by attending the New York International Auto Show. Oriskany students were able to explore and analyze an incredible collection of innovative, cutting-edge designs and futuristic concept cars throughout four floors displaying more 1,000 vehicles.

From a solemn standpoint, showing great compassion, character and integrity, many of our students honored, remembered and paid their respects to the students who lost their lives in the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Oriskany students chose to take a different approach from what other schools were doing and instead gathered peacefully in the Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium on March 14 to discuss, reflect and conduct a moment of silence for the students of Parkland, Florida. I am very proud of our students for their thoughtfulness, courage and compassion during these difficult times.

Kindergarten Orientation was held on March 7 with more than 29 families in attendance. Thank you to our Board of Education members, Eastern Star Day Care, the Oriskany Public Library, N.A. Walbran Elementary Student Council and the N.A. Walbran PTA for attending and showing all the wonderful opportunities our school has to offer. Registration packets are available in the elementary main office if you would still like to register your child for our kindergarten or pre-kindergarten programs for the 2018-19 school year.

N.A. Walbran Elementary celebrated reading and Dr. Seuss' birthday in March with our Pick a Reading Partner (PARP) program theme -- Join the Party: Read! Students participated in a variety of activities including Fox in Socks Day where students wore silly socks, a bookmark decorating contest, an hour-long afterschool Read-In and Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) time each week. The PARP Ending Celebration was held on April 5 and included a variety of Dr. Seuss themed games for students and their families to play. Each student also received a book at the end of PARP courtesy of the PTA.

Some staff and administration from the Jr./Sr. High School attended a professional development seminar/workshop entitled, "The Positivity Project," held in Syracuse. The Positivity Project is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping America's youth to build stronger relationships by recognizing the character strengths in themselves and others. Many schools across the nation are taking advantage of this character-driven opportunity to make the school, community and the world a better place to live. Additional information on the Positivity Project can be found online at [posproject.org](http://posproject.org).

In closing, I would like to take the opportunity to say, as many of you already know, that our students are gifted, talented, thoughtful and character-driven individuals. And, as always, I thank you, the community, for the opportunity to share some of the many happenings occurring within the Oriskany school community. I wish everybody a safe, warm and pleasant spring season and I encourage everyone to come out and participate in the voting process on Tuesday, May 15, 2018.

Respectfully,

**TIMOTHY J. GAFFNEY**

Superintendent of Schools





# ORISKANY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 2018-2019 SCHOOL BUDGET SPECIAL SECTION

## BUDGET VOTE and SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS Tuesday, May 15 • Noon – 8:30 p.m. Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School

Voters are asked to decide upon one (1) proposition, including the adoption of the proposed budget for the school year commencing July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019, and to elect two Board of Education members.

Budget Proposition: Shall the Board of Education of the Oriskany Central School District, Oriskany, New York, be authorized to expend the sums of money, which will be required for school district purposes for the 2018-2019 School Year, in the total amount of \$15,347,877 (The Budget), and to levy and collect the necessary sum against the taxable real property in the School District.

School Board Candidates. Election of Two (2) members to the Board of Education, one vacancy is for a three-year term commencing July 1, 2018, and concluding June 30, 2021, and one vacancy is for a two-year term commencing July 1, 2018, and concluding June 30, 2020. The vacancies arise from the expiration of the terms of Amy Mayo and Brian Judycki.

(\* The candidate with the highest number of votes will receive the three-year term, and the candidate with the second highest number of votes will receive the two-year term.)

The candidates are:

- John Stewart**
- Amy Mayo (incumbent)**
- Brian Judycki (incumbent)**

Dear Members of the Oriskany Central School District Community,

At our April 9, 2018 meeting, the Oriskany Board of Education approved a \$15,347,877 budget for the 2018-2019 school year. This budget represents a 3.00% increase in appropriations from the 2017-2018 budget, and is reflective of our commitment to maintain a high-quality educational program within the financial means of our state and our community. We continue to maximize monies and services by working in partnerships with BOCES, federal, state, and local governments, and continue to look for cost efficiencies throughout the operational aspects of our school district.

The proposed 2018-2019 budget also includes a proposed tax levy that stays within our maximum allowable cap of 2.24%, and therefore will require a simple majority vote.

This year's budget proposal again demonstrates our enduring support of a comprehensive educational program that continues to provide creative and innovative learning opportunities for our students to enhance their educational experience, and a rigorous and relevant curriculum that prepares students to be college and career successful.

The Oriskany Board of Education believes the 2018-2019 proposed budget offers the best possible balance of a continued commitment to a comprehensive education for our children of Oriskany while maintaining an affordable value for our residents and members of our community. We appreciate your consideration of this proposal and urge your participation in the voting process on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, held from noon to 8:30 p.m. at the Canopy Entrance of the Jr./Sr. High School.

The budget hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in the District Office Board Room. All community members are welcome to attend. Further, please visit our district website for the latest budget information and feel free to call the District Office at 315.768.2058 with any questions you may have regarding the 2018-2019 proposed budget.

On Behalf of the Oriskany School Board,  
**THERESE HANNA**  
Board President





## Proposed Budget

	2017-2018 Approved Budget	2018-2019 Proposed Budget
<b>General Support</b>		
Total Board Of Education	\$7,729	\$7,767
Total Central Administration	\$224,122	\$215,294
Total Finance	\$444,986	\$508,976
Total Staff	\$119,335	\$122,525
Total Central Services	\$1,236,766	\$1,135,709
Total Special Items	\$207,282	\$213,186
Total General Support	\$2,240,220	\$2,203,457
<b>Share Of Total:</b>		<b>14.36%</b>
<b>Instruction</b>		
Total Administration & Improvement	\$416,149	\$439,631
Total Teaching	\$5,984,976	\$6,257,392
Total Instructional Media	\$627,345	\$651,824
Total Pupil Services	\$661,946	\$712,693
Total Instruction	\$7,690,416	\$8,061,540
<b>Share Of Total:</b>		<b>52.53%</b>
<b>Pupil Transportation</b>		
Total Pupil Transportation	\$908,201	\$925,934
<b>Share Of Total:</b>		<b>6.03%</b>
<b>Community Service</b>		
Total Recreation	\$10,000	\$9,356
Total Other Community Service		
Total Community Service	\$10,000	\$9,356
<b>Share Of Total:</b>		<b>0.06%</b>
<b>Undistributed</b>		
Total Employee Benefits	\$3,191,485	\$3,303,902
Total Debt Service	\$835,529	\$818,688
Total Interfund Transfer	\$25,000	\$25,000
Total Undistributed	\$4,052,014	\$4,147,590
<b>Share Of Total:</b>		<b>27.02%</b>
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$14,900,851</b>	<b>\$15,347,877</b>

## Revenue

	2017-2018	2018-2019
State Aid	\$6,825,045	\$7,205,099
Local Non-Tax	\$424,996	\$366,346
Tax Levy	\$5,789,984	\$5,919,538
Fund Balance	\$1,860,826	\$1,856,894
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$14,900,851</b>	<b>\$15,347,877</b>

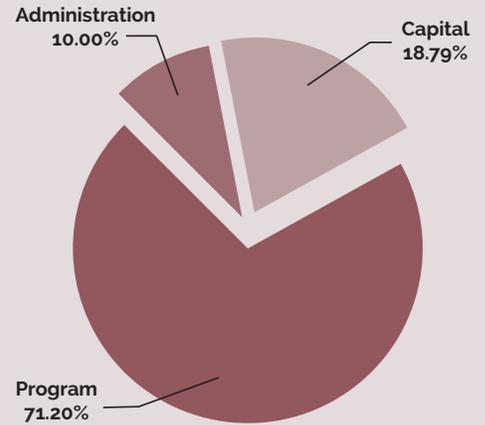
### Three Component Budget

The State legislation which requires the state's school districts to have a public budget vote, includes the requirement that the budget be divided up into three components: program, capital, and administration.

Program Budget: This portion covers teacher salaries, school supplies, and all related educational costs.

Capital Budget: Refers to all facilities costs such as leases, annual debt service, custodial salaries and benefits, service contracts, custodial supplies, maintenance and repair of facilities, and utilities.

Administration Budget: This section includes central administration and school offices, along with clerical support, salaries and benefits, and related expenses of all school administrators, board of education expenses for planning, and other administrative activities.



[www.oriskanycsd.org](http://www.oriskanycsd.org)  
**For more budget information, please visit our website!**

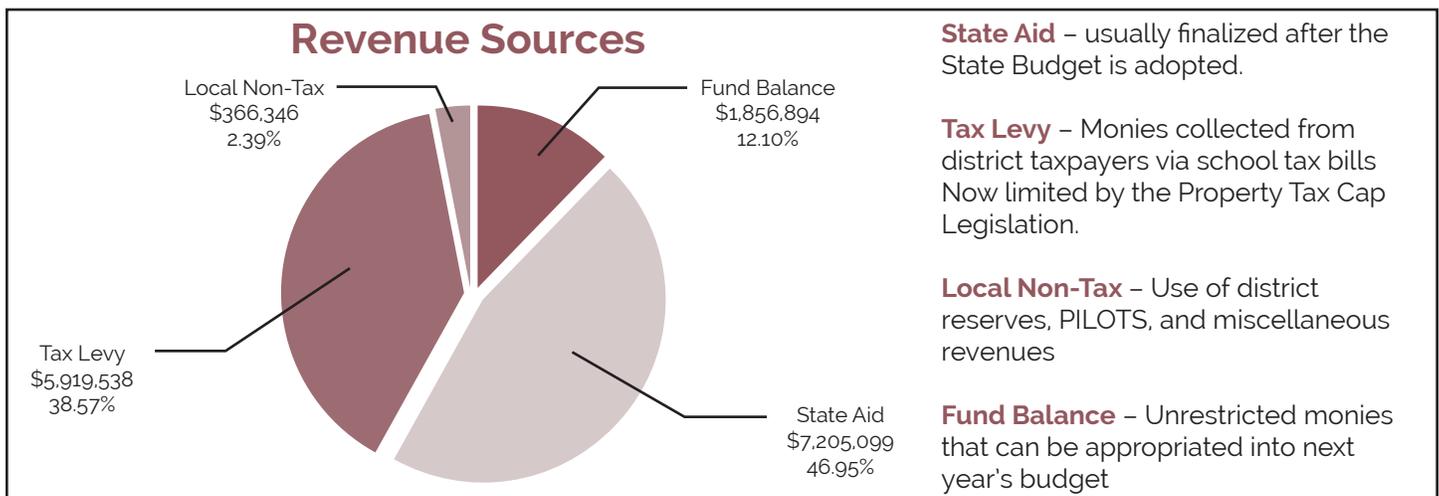


## 2018-19 School District Budget Notice

	Budget Adopted for the 2017-18 School year	Budget Proposed for the 2018-19 School year	Contingency Budget for the 2018-19 School year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$14,900,851	\$15,347,877	\$15,324,877
Increase/Decrease for the 2018-19 School Year		\$447,026	\$424,026
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.00 %	2.85%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.13%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$5,789,984	\$5,919,538	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable			
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **			
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy			
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$5,789,984	\$5,919,538	\$5,789,984
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$184,569	\$139,292	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$5,605,415	\$5,780,246	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$5,605,415	\$5,780,246	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$1,446,518	\$1,535,418	\$1,512,418
Program Component	\$10,483,422	\$10,927,969	\$10,927,969
Capital Component	\$2,970,911	\$2,884,490	\$2,884,490

\* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2018-19 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law. If the proposed budget is defeated twice, the Board of Education must adopt a contingent budget. The following items are excluded from a contingent budget: equipment purchases, student supplies, non-essential maintenance, transportation of students under mileage limits set by state law, and public use of school building and grounds, except where there is no cost to the District. In light of the Property Tax Cap law, under contingency, the school district can levy no more taxes than the amount of taxes levied in the prior school year by the district.

\*\* List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)





### Proposed Tax Levy for 2018-19 School year

2018-2019 Proposed Levy	5,919,538.00
- Exclusions	139,292.00
Proposed Tax Levy Before Exclusions	5,780,246.00
2018-2019 Maximum Allowable Levy	5,919,538.00
- Exclusions	139,292.00
Calculated Tax Levy Limit	5,780,246.00
\$ Amount Below The Tax Levy Limit	
% Percentage Below The Tax Levy Limit	

Since the proposed tax levy before exclusions is less than or equal to 2018-2019 tax levy limit, then the voter approval necessary is "simple majority" (50%+1)

Budget disclosures refer to the calculated tax levy limit and proposed tax levy before exclusions, not the maximum allowable levy.

### Basic STAR Exemption

Three factors that determine the tax rate on your home include: tax levy, equalization rates and property assessment. The tax levy is set by the school district in May; equalization rates are established by the New York State Office of Real Property Services in August and each respective town establishes assessments and equalization rates, but these are just estimates. Therefore, tax rates are not finalized until late August, at which time school tax bills are printed and mailed.

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2018-19 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	\$600.30

<sup>1</sup> The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

### Tax Cap Formula

Prior Year Tax Levy (17-18 Warrant)	\$5,789,984	
Tax Base Growth Factor	x 1.0000	
Pilots -Prior Year (FY17-18)	+\$203,646	
Prior Year Exemptions	-\$184,569	
Adjusted Prior Year Tax Levy	<b>= \$5,809,061</b>	
Allowable Growth Factor	x 1.02	
Pilots- Coming Year (FY 18-19)	- \$144,996	
+ Carryover		
Tax Levy Limit	<b>=\$5,780,246</b>	<b>-0.17%</b>
+ Pension Exclusions ERS		
TRS		
Capital Tax Levy	+ \$139,292	
Tax Levy Limit Plus Exclusions	<b>=\$5,919,538</b>	<b>2.24%</b>

### Voter Qualifications

In order to vote in the School District Budget Vote and Election, you must be:

- a U.S. citizen;
- 18 years old;
- a District resident for 30 days prior to the vote; and
- not being disqualified from voting, such as certain convicted felons, or the person has been adjudicated mentally incompetent.

### Absentee Ballots

Notice is given that applications for absentee ballots to those who may be entitled under Education Law 2018-a are available in the office of the Clerk of the District on school days between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. A list of all the persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available in the office of the Clerk of the District until the day of the election. Notice is given that if an absentee ballot is to be mailed to the voter, the application for the same must be received by the Clerk of the District at least 7 days before the election; if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter, the application for the same must be received by the Clerk of the District the day before the election.



## 2018-19 Property Tax Report Card

412901- Oriskany Central School District Contact Person: <b>Alicia D. Koster</b> , School Business Administrator Telephone Number: 315.768.2058	Budgeted 2017-18 (A)	Proposed Budget 2018-19 (B)
Total Budgeted Amount, not Including Separate Propositions	\$14,900,851	\$15,347,877
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount <sup>1</sup>	\$5,789,984	\$5,919,538
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable		
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable <sup>2</sup>		
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if Applicable		
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$5,789,984	\$5,919,538
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$184,569	\$139,292
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions <sup>3</sup>	\$5,605,415	\$5,780,246
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D) <sup>3</sup>	\$5,605,415	\$5,780,246
I. Difference: (G - H); (negative value requires 60.0% voter approval) <sup>2</sup>	\$0	\$0
Public School Enrollment	604	595
Consumer Price Index		2.13%
1 Include any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest. 2 Tax levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion under the School Tax Levy Limit and may affect voter approval requirements. 3 For 2018-19, includes any carryover from 2017-18 and excludes any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.	Actual 2017-18 (D)	Estimated 2018-19 (E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	\$4,017,980	\$4,020,387
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,860,826	\$1,856,894
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$596,034	\$613,915
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	4.00%	4.00%

Reserve Type	Reserve Name	Reserve Description*	3/31/18 Actual Balance	6/30/18 Estimated Ending Balance	Intended Use of the Reserve in the 2018-19 School Year
Capital	Capital	To pay the cost of any object or purpose for which bonds may be issued.	\$843,100.10	\$843,230.33	Not using monies from this reserve for 2018-2019
Repair	Repair	To pay the cost of repairs to capital improvements or equipment.	\$197,666.72	\$197,697.25	Not using monies from this reserve for 2018-2019
Workers' Compensation	Workers' Compensation	Top pay for Workers Compensation and benefits	\$140,940.67	\$140,962.44	Not using monies from this reserve for 2018-2019
Unemployment insurance	Unemployment	Top pay the cost of reimbursement to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund.	\$87,542.91	\$87,555.64	Not using monies from this reserve for 2018-2019
Reserve for Tax Reduction		For the gradual use of the proceeds of the sale of school district real property.			
Mandatory Reserve for Debt Service	Debt Service	To cover debt service payments on outstanding obligations (bonds, BANS) after the sale of district capital assets or improvements.	\$882,393.06	\$882,523.59	Not using monies from this reserve for 2018-2019
Insurance	Insurance	To pay liability, casualty, and other types of uninsured losses.	\$808,524.15	\$808,649.07	Not using monies from this reserve for 2018-2019
Property Loss	Property Loss	To establish and maintain a program of reserves to cover property loss.	\$50,111.76	\$50,118.22	Not using monies from this reserve for 2018-2019
Liability	Liability	To establish and maintain a program of reserves to cover liability claims incurred.	\$98,540.61	\$98,555.83	Not using monies from this reserve for 2018-2019
Tax Certiorari	Tax Certiorari	To establish and maintain a program of reserves to cover liability claims incurred.	\$397,018.19	\$397,079.54	Not using monies from this reserve for 2018-2019
Reserve for Insurance Recoveries		To account for unexpended proceeds of insurance recoveries at the fiscal year end.			
Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	For the payment of accrued 'employee benefits' due to employees upon termination of service.	\$555,067.73	\$555,153.46	Not using monies from this reserve for 2018-2019
Retirement Contribution	ERS Retirement	To fund employer retirement contributions to the State and Local Employees' Retirement System	\$841,253.93	\$841,383.89	Not using monies from this reserve for 2018-2019
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes		For unpaid taxes due certain city school districts not reimbursed by their city/county until the following fiscal year.			
Other Reserve					



## Resource Management Strategies

The 2018-2019 school expenditure plan supports a quality comprehensive instructional program. Actions taken by the Board of Education and Administration have allowed the District to provide programs and opportunities for our students that will prepare them for success in college and career. As a result of sound fiscal management, the District this year is, again, in a position to increase program offerings for our students in order to support our commitment to safety, personal attention, positive relationships, and a productive climate for learning. These actions are reflected in the expenditure budget proposal, including:

- Increased enrichment opportunities for students both at the elementary and the high school while maintaining effective remedial and compulsory programs.
- Utilizing BOCES to offer summer academic programs for our elementary, middle, and high school students.
- Additional access to instructional technology to support the innovation initiative that will position our students for success in the existing highly competitive college and career climate.
- Expanding partnerships with area organizations and institutions to increase internship and apprenticeship experiences for students and staff.
- Maximizing grant, state, and federal funds to support and off-set local funds necessary for school programs.
- Supporting staff improvement through research-proven means that lead to increased student performance.
- Over 70% of our expenditure dollars go to support our educational program. We have shown a consistent trend in protecting dollars attributable to student learning and achievement.

## Oriskany Maintains Focus on School Safety

The Oriskany Central School District is one of 152 school districts and Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) in New York State to receive the Utica National Insurance Group's "School Safety Excellence Award" for 2018 at the Titanium with honors level.

The honor is presented annually and recognizes school districts' safety efforts as they work to help keep students, staff and visitors safe. The Oriskany Central School District received its award at Utica National's 38th annual school safety seminar at the Syracuse Doubletree, East Syracuse, NY, one of seven such seminars the company hosts in the state. For over 40 years, Utica National has kept kids and school staff safe and currently insures more than 300 school districts in upstate New York alone.

Oriskany Central School District officials accepted a certificate to commemorate the district's safety efforts and a \$500 award for use in furthering those efforts from Utica National representatives.

Utica National's School Safety Excellence Award Program has three levels – titanium, platinum and gold – in which schools can earn a meritorious distinction by meeting specific criteria to enhance overall safety. Through the program, schools with their own transportation, schools with contract transportation and BOCES are evaluated. Categories covered include bullying prevention programs, playground safety and other areas, and are measured using specific, quantifiable surveys.

"Safety and health concerns continue to be a priority in our school districts," explained Brian Saville, Resident Senior Vice President in Utica National's Educational Institutions Unit. "Districts that go 'above and beyond' to provide a safe, healthy and focused culture for learning are to be applauded, and we're pleased to count the Oriskany Central School District among them."

Mr. Saville noted that, beyond the recognition itself, an added benefit of following the safety program is the chance to pinpoint specific threats to safety. "The time to address those threats is before a loss happens, which really helps contribute to the safety culture that districts are working toward."

The Oriskany Central School District also recently formed a Safety Task Force comprised of district officials and Board of Education members along with law enforcement and emergency response personnel. The Task Force will thoroughly examine the district's emergency preparedness and response protocols and plans to identify areas that can be further strengthened to increase safety for students, staff and community members.



Dear Students, Parents/Guardians, and Community Members:

As this newsletter comes to you, I hope everyone had a wonderful Spring Recess! Even though our Pick a Reading Partner (PARP) program ended in March, we hope you are still finding time to "pick a reading partner" and continue reading with your family.

The month of May is here and it's another busy month at N.A. Walbran Elementary School! Our Elementary School Band and Third Grade Recorder Recruitment Concert will be taking place, as well as our fourth through sixth grade chorus performance of the musical, *The Castaways*. Our Sixth Grade Plant, Bake Sale and Silent Auction will take place on May 18 and 19. Please come visit us in the elementary cafeteria on those days to support our sixth grade class fundraising event for their end of the year experience.

For the month of June, the Ride for Missing Children will be passing by our school. We will also be having our 6th Grade Moving-Up Ceremony on June 18 at 7 p.m. in the High School.

This spring is also an exciting time as we begin construction of our new playground! Our annual PE Day is tentatively on hold as we reorganize the event with the construction site in mind. The playground is anticipated to be ready for the start of the 2018-19 school year.

Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten registration packets for the 2018-19 school year are now available at the Elementary and Jr./Sr. High School offices. Screening will take place for all kindergarten students in May. Feel free to contact the elementary office or consult our website if you have questions regarding pre-kindergarten or kindergarten registration, or need to sign up for a screening time.

Continue to check out our school website as well as my Facebook page ("Oriskany Elementary Principal") for photographs and articles of all our events.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Thank you,

**KAREN CIANFROCCO HINDERLING**

Elementary School Principal

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Dear Students, Parents/Guardians, and Community Members:

I hope that you had a wonderful Spring Recess and are enjoying the warmer weather.

Our teachers and students are focused on preparing for end of the year assessments. Advanced Placement examinations take place in May and Regents Examinations occur June 12-20. Many courses have a local examination or final project for the final exam component. Students are encouraged to attend after-school review sessions with their teacher. Review session schedules, Regents exam dates and final exam dates can be found on the District website.

We have many exciting end of the year events planned to celebrate our students. On May 15, the District Art Show will be held in the Jr./Sr. High School from 5-8 p.m. and the Jr./Sr. High School Spring Concert will be held in the Auditorium at 7 p.m. On May 18, we will be holding The Engagement Project Celebration; details are posted on the District Website. On the last day of classes, June 11, we will once again be hosting the Student Council Awards beginning at 1:15 p.m. in the Davis Gym. Our biggest celebration of the year, Commencement, will be held on Friday, June 22 at 7 p.m. I hope to see many of you at these events as we acknowledge student achievement and learning.

Updated photos and articles celebrating our students can be found on the District website and my Facebook page ("Oriskany Jr./Sr High Principal"). Please contact me if there is anything we can do to better assist your child.

Thank you,

**JULIE L. THOMPSON**

Jr.-Sr. High School Principal



## N.A. Walbran Elementary Celebrates Dr. Seuss' Birthday during Pick a Reading Partner Program

Despite missing out on their Pick a Reading Partner (PARP) Kick-Off celebration because of a snow day on March 2 – Dr. Seuss' birthday, students and teachers at N.A. Walbran Elementary still enjoyed a variety of fun and educational Seuss-themed activities throughout their month-long reading challenge.

PARP encourages students and their families to read at home for at least 15 minutes each day. The choice of reading materials can vary from books to anything with printed words. The daily activity of reading together strengthens relationships while building the students' reading and communication skills.

To begin PARP, each class decorated their classroom door based on a different Dr. Seuss book. The door designs allowed students to incorporate their own artwork and photos into scenes from the popular children's books.

At the start of each school day, students played a Guess the Reader Game where they saw a photo of a teacher or staff member hiding their face behind a book and tried to guess who it was. One student from the primary wing and one student from the intermediate wing who had the right answer were selected as the winner each day and received a special prize.

Each Wednesday in March, students and teachers celebrated a themed dress-up day including wearing mismatched clothes on Wacky Wednesday, wearing goofy hats on Cat in the Hat Day and wearing silly socks on Fox in Socks Day.



One day each week, students participated in Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) at a surprise time during the school day. When DEAR time was announced, students would stop whatever they were doing and read a book of their choosing.

On March 22, N.A. Walbran Elementary held a PARP Read-In where students stayed after school to read some of their favorite books. Students brought pillows and blankets and found a comfortable spot in either the library or gym to read. Students also enjoyed a snack of apples, bananas and bottled water donated by Hannaford Supermarket in New Hartford.

PARP wrapped up on April 5, with a celebration in the evening for students and their families. The elementary school gym and hallways were filled with fun Dr. Seuss-themed games and activities like Pin the Heart on the Grinch, Green Eggs and Ham Tic-Tac-Toe and Fox in Socks memory cards. Each student was also able to pick out a free book to keep.





### AP and Regents Review Classes

AP and regents review classes are currently being offered at Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School. Please visit our website [www.oriskanycsd.org/ReviewClasses](http://www.oriskanycsd.org/ReviewClasses) to view the full review class schedule.

### Elementary Students Participate in Math & Movement Family Night

This wasn't your average math lesson!

On February 28, N.A. Walbran Elementary students participated in a Math & Movement Family Night. This unique program employs a kinesthetic and multi-sensory approach to teaching and learning. The program utilizes large floor mats that resemble game boards and allows students to jump and move while they learn and practice math and reading concepts. The Math & Movement Program is unique in that it shifts the normal learning perspective by allowing the students to interact with the math concepts on the floor mats. Stations were facilitated by faculty and staff members.

The program was sponsored by the N.A. Walbran Elementary PTA.



## Cinderella



Like our Oriskany Central School District Facebook page for news, photos and updates from throughout the district. [Facebook.com/OriskanyCSD](https://www.facebook.com/OriskanyCSD)



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## DISTRICT CALENDAR

### Update to 2017-2018 District Calendar

Because the Oriskany Central School District did not use all of its five authorized snow days for the 2017-2018 school year, the following days will now be scheduled days off from school. The Oriskany Central School District will be closed:

- Friday, May 25, 2018
- Friday, June 22, 2018\*



\*The Superintendent's Conference Day previously scheduled for Friday, June 22 has been moved to Thursday, June 21. Only staff will report on June 21 for the Superintendent's Conference Day.

Please keep in mind that the elimination of these days from the 2017-2018 school calendar is contingent upon no emergencies that would deny student attendance days for the remainder of the school year. These emergencies include, but are not limited to: water main breaks, gas leaks, inability to serve lunch during normal operating hours, loss of attendance due to fire, natural disaster, emergency response or snow days.

[www.oriskanycsd.org](http://www.oriskanycsd.org)

Visit our website for the latest district and school news,  
announcements, photo galleries, upcoming events and much more!

