

Community Connections



School District of Oostburg Newsletter

The mission of the School District of Oostburg is to prepare students to be productive and positive contributors to our society and the world.

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OHS Cross Country Girls Finish Well at State

Congratulations to the OHS Girls Cross Country team on a highly successful season that culminated with their 5th place finish at the WIAA Division 3 State Cross Country meet held on October 27, 2018, at The Ridges Golf Course in Wisconsin Rapids.

Over the length of the season the team won invitations at Whitnall, Sheboygan Lutheran and Valders while finishing 2nd at four other meets. The girls then won the Big East Conference title for the first time since 2005. The following week the team won their sectional meet in rainy and snowy conditions to qualify for the state meet for the second year in a row. At state, the girls put together their best running of the season to finish in style. Great job, ladies!

Team members this season were Carsen Gatz, Payton Navis, Sabryn Bley, Madelyn Hendrikse, Rileigh Veldboom, Ella Stader, Lindsey Wilterdink, Ashley Swihart, Julia Spindler, Autumn Frier, Mackena Hendrikse, Taygan Brusse, Anna Hoffman and Jessie Gross.



*Above: Members of the OHS State Girls
Cross Country Team*

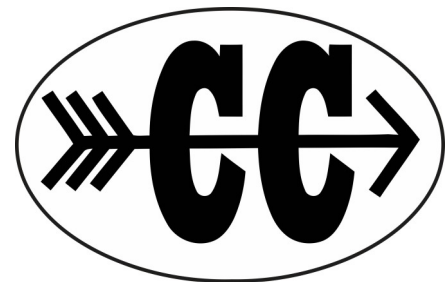
*"There is no
substitute for
excellence."*



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*Above: The OHS Girls stop to pose be-
hind a State banner*



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From the Superintendent's Desk

Greetings!

Fall has always been my favorite season of the year. I enjoy summer and like a good snow storm (as long as it comes on the weekend), but there is nothing like leaves changing color, crops being harvested, and spending a Friday night watching a HS football game. Fall means school is in full swing and that extra hour of sleep comes at just the right time as we recover from those extra-inning Brewer games that go late into the night. It's also tough to beat a Thanksgiving meal shared with friends and family as we reflect on the blessings in our lives.

My list of "thanks" far exceeds the space available in this newsletter, but please allow me to highlight a few things which have been on my mind recently. First, I am thankful for the United States of America. In the past several weeks I was able to witness the naturalization ceremony for one of our staff members at the Federal courthouse in Milwaukee. Part of the judge's message included the following statement:

"Today, each of you will receive something that many people in other parts of the world would do anything to obtain - US citizenship."

The reality of that sentence hits home and reminds me that I should never take for granted something which was given to me at birth, but earned by others and protected through the sacrifice of so many over the years. That sacrifice is also honored in fall as our district hosts several events which recognize our Veterans for their service. I have many "favorite" school things, but it's difficult to think of anything better than our annual Veteran's Day program at the elementary school. Not a year goes by that I don't gain a renewed respect and appreciation for the costs associated with freedoms that are not always fully appreciated.

Finally, I am thankful to have known Karri Krier. I had the privilege of knowing Karri as a student in my science classroom, as a MS aide, and as a Junior Kindergarten and 4th grade teacher. In each of those settings - and pretty much anywhere you saw Karri - she provided a great example of how we should view life. I don't remember seeing Karri without a smile and usually that smile was accompanied by an infectious laugh. Karri had a powerful combination of being a learner who poured herself into others. She flat-out worked hard and always wanted to improve. I had the privilege of being Karri's teacher, but find myself thankful for what I learned from her.

I hope that each of you enjoy this holiday season, and I want to thank you for entrusting us as we partner together in fulfilling our mission to ensure that all students learn at high levels allowing them to become positive contributors to society and our world.

Kevin



Kevin Bruggink

Author Visits OES

On Friday, October 13, 2018, the students of Oostburg Elementary School had the opportunity to have children's author Ruth Spiro visit for the day. She presented to the 3rd -5th graders, read to the 4K and 5K classes, ate lunch with a group of students, and ended her day by sharing her new book, *Made by Maxine*, with the 1st and 2nd graders.

Made by Maxine tells the story of a little girl named Maxine and how she recycles "junk" to make new things. This is the first book of three in a series. The second of which is already written and now in the hands of the illustrator. Ruth Spiro also briefly shared about her other book series, *Baby Loves Science*, which includes nine books so far.

Thank you to the Oostburg PTO for sponsoring this event and the opportunity it gave to our students to see the connection between writing and reading.

To Left: Author Ruth Spiro



Above: Some of the books by Author Ruth Spiro

Staff Changes in the Oostburg District

Cheers to Nearly 30 Years!

It is with mixed emotions that we bid farewell to a staple of Oostburg Middle School. **Mrs. Deb DenBoer** retired from OSD on November 2, 2018, after almost three decades in the same spot. She had the privilege, as not too many people do, of serving several generations of families in the community. Mrs. DenBoer's ability to connect with students, staff, and community members will surely be missed. We wish her every good thing and more in retirement, especially health, happiness, and a lot of quality time with family and friends.

Thank you, Mrs. DenBoer, for your many years of service to the district, and especially to OMS!



Deb DenBoer



Nanette Gabrielse is now the administrative assistant at OMS. She brings 20 years of experience as an administrative assistant and several years working in the OHS library to the position in the office. Mrs. Gabrielse's personality, drive, organization and attention to detail are qualities that are certain to make her a welcome addition to the Middle School office.

Please welcome Mrs. Gabrielse to OMS the next time you see her!



Shauna Ternes

Since Mrs. Gabrielse moved from the OHS library, **Mrs. Shauna Ternes** has stepped into that position. Mrs. Ternes is a graduate of Oostburg High School who had a home daycare for almost 16 years. She enjoys working with kids and helping them be the best they can be.

Mrs. Ternes is married to Joel and they have three daughters who all attend school in the District. Outside of school, she enjoys watching her kids in their activities, playing volleyball and scrapbooking. She also likes to be with her "club girls". Mrs. Ternes is very appreciative of the supportive staff and is looking forward to building new and better relationships with staff and students alike.

We welcome **Mrs. Sherrey Jaeger** to the position of Administrative Assistant at OES. Mrs. Jaeger came to the office upon the resignation of Mrs. Shannon VanEss who left to care for her children.

Mrs. Jaeger has many years of experience as an Administrative Assistant at Crossroads Community Church and as owner/manager of her own cleaning business. She lives in Sheboygan with her husband Jeff and their 4 children. Mrs. Jaeger enjoys spending time with her family, watching her kids play sports, and being very active in their church. She says that her kids keep her busy with a lot of activities.

Please welcome Mrs. Jaeger to OES the next time you are at the elementary school!



Sherrey Jaeger



A few smiling faces who enjoyed Thanksgiving Hot Lunch served this year. We have not been able to make or serve this meal the last two years because the new kitchen was under construction. The staff and students are grateful to the community for supporting this remodeling project.

A very Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families from all of us at Oostburg Schools!



Veterans Day Program at OES



Above and Below: Some of the many Veterans honored at OES



Some of the OES Participants

On November 9, 2018, OES honored local Veterans with breakfast and a program by the 5th graders. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the end of World War 1 and the program presented some interesting facts about that war. Brooklyn Hoffman, Addison Berg and Taylor Mattek explained what this holiday means to them. The 5th Grade Class presented several songs and the members of the military that were present were introduced and honored. What a wonderful way to show respect and honor to our veterans!

District Employee Becomes a US Citizen



Angelica Ochoa recently completed a journey that took her many years. She became a United States citizen on November 1, 2018. Mrs. Ochoa's journey began 7 years earlier when she was able to come to the U.S. through a petition and earn her "green card". She felt that it was the normal thing to do to get her green card. The green card meant that she could live and work in the US, and pay taxes. Her children could attend school and learn English. She was content. Then something happened that made her decide that a green card was not enough, that she needed to become a citizen. Mrs. Ochoa began looking into what was needed to apply for citizenship. She says she had a lot of support from the community, especially people from her church and workplace. One year ago she started the process by completing an application. Her application was accepted then she needed to pay for all the required background checks and DNA checking.



She also needed to collect the many required proofs and certificates. Mrs. Ochoa was able to turn all the needed information in and then she waited to see if she was eligible to take the test for citizenship.

She says that one hard part is the waiting...Waiting for news from the USCIS, waiting for appointments, waiting the next step in this journey. Mrs. Ochoa finally got the news she was hoping for. She was qualified to become a citizen of the United States. Then came the next hard part...studying for the citizenship test. Mrs. Ochoa had a list of possible questions. The officials could ask any of them. They may ask any number of them and she would need to have the correct answer. She needed to learn to read, write and speak English. Mrs. Ochoa says she spent eight months studying and then the day of the test came. The official spoke quickly as he gave her the test orally. She was nervous, at first, then a calm came over her and she was no longer fearful. Mrs. Ochoa knew that many people were supporting her. When she was finished, the official said she had answered ALL 100 questions correctly and passed. The swearing-in ceremony was only a couple weeks away.



Mrs. Ochoa feels thankful for the opportunity to live in this country. She says that it was a beautiful ceremony where she promised to be loyal to and support the United States. She says it is an honor to be an American citizen today. Congratulations, Mrs. Ochoa, on completing your journey!

Bits & Bytes

- For school closing info you will be contacted by the district's *Automated Phone system*.
- Monthly school calendars are available on the Oostburg School District website.
- Check out past newsletters at <http://oostburg.k12.wi.us/resources/district-newsletters>
- Fitness Center hours: Check the current hours and available programs on the district website at <http://oostburg.k12.wi.us/communityconnections/#fitnesscenter>
- Keep track of the balance of your Oostburg Schools lunch account at Infinite Campus found on the Oostburg School District website.
- We invite your comments and suggestions. E-mail your thoughts to: Karen.Leitzke@Oostburg.k12.wi.us.

Coming Up...

December	5	District Early Release
	10	OMS Band/Choir Concert
	17	OHS Band/Choir Concert
	19	School Board Meeting, 6pm
	21	No School - In-Service Day
	24 - January 1	Christmas Break
January	2	Classes Resume
	15	End of Second Quarter
	16	District Early Release
	16	School Board Meeting, 6pm
February	1	No School - In-Service Day
	13	District Early Release
	20	School Board Meeting, 6pm



Please Help Us Save...

- ~ Campbell's Soup Labels
 - ~ Box Tops for Education
 - ~ Soda Pop Pull Tabs
- Drop off locations at
Oostburg State Bank,
Mentink's
Piggly Wiggly
or any of the
Oostburg
schools.



No person may be denied admission to any public school in the district or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, co-curricular, student services, recreational or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, religion, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, handicap or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability in the educational programs or activities operated by the School District of Oostburg.

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