

Community Connections



School District of
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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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Wisconsin Mathematics League Contest

Every 6th, 7th, and 8th grade student at Oostburg Middle School recently participated in the Wisconsin Mathematics League Contest. The top five student scores from each grade were tabulated and entered in the contest.

The 6th grade students were: Levi Dulmes, Aaron Huibregtse, Camryn Lund, Jacob Richards, Viktor Schwarz, and Abby Scott. There were six names submitted because of a tie for fifth place. Our 6th grade team score was 29th in the state. Viktor had the highest score in the 6th grade and his score was tied for 2nd place in our region which includes schools from Sheboygan, Brown, Calumet, Oconto, Washington, Waupaca, and Winnebago counties.

The 7th grade students were: Jon Greupink, Mackena Hendrikse, Jada Ritterling, Angelica Trekas, Hunter Vey, and Ethan Wittneben. There were six names submitted because of a tie for fifth place. Our 7th grade team ranked 13th in the state and 4th in our region. Jon had the highest score in the 7th grade and his score was tied for 28th in the state.

The 8th grade students were: Madeline Block, Jacob Brill, Josh Brill, Isabel Fuentes de Rehm, and Halle Schwartz. Our 8th grade team ranked 15th in the state and 4th in our region. Madeline and Isabel tied for the highest score in the 8th grade.

Congratulations to everyone who participated in this contest.



"There is no
substitute for
excellence."



From left: Isabel Fuentes de Rehm
and Madeline Block



From left: Viktor Schwarz and
Jon Gruepink

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From the Superintendent's Desk

Long Range Planning Committee Work Continues:

This Fall's newsletter provided an update of the ongoing work of our Oostburg School District Long Range Planning Committee. The members of the Planning Committee are Bob Brusse, Jack Stodyk, Jim Swart, Pete Scheppmann, Gary DeMaster, Melanie Wisse, Kevin Bruggink, Ceanne Simmelink, Beth Grosshuesch, Terry Lemkuil, Jill Davies, Brian Nyenhuis, and Kris DeBruine. The work of this committee continues to be influenced by feedback gained from our Fall of 2013 Community Survey and has led to a primary focus on the 1956 wing of our elementary school (see survey feedback below).



Kevin Bruggink

While our buildings are well maintained, there are some major facility issues which are too large to address from our operating budget. We believe that this is a good time to consider our options because in 2017, the Oostburg School District will pay off a loan associated with an earlier building project. This reduction of debt will reduce the tax impact of any potential project. We believe delaying an investment in our buildings will cost us more in the long run.

While we've heard many ideas, our next step is to once again ask for your input. Our plans going forward must reflect the needs of our students and the priorities of our taxpayers. We are working with School Perceptions LLC, an independent Wisconsin-based firm with expertise in conducting community surveys, to assist us with our data gathering efforts. This is the same firm which conducted the last, more general, 2013 Community Survey referenced here.

It is our intention to distribute a follow-up survey in Fall of 2015 so we can further shape any formal recommendations we may bring to our School Board. We look forward to keeping you informed of our progress as we contribute to our mission to prepare students who are positive and productive contributors to society and the world.

*Fall 2013 Community
Survey Priorities*

What priority would you place on the following items as the Board refines its long-range facility plan?

High (3), Medium (2), Low (1)

Item	Average
Elementary: Adequate classroom space to avoid overcrowding	2.55
Elementary: Improve energy efficiency (replace the 1958 boiler/improve heating/ventilation systems/lighting)	2.38
High School: Asbestos removal	2.35
District-wide: Replace the 1986/1992 roof sections	2.32
High School: Improve energy efficiency/update heating/ventilation system	2.17
District-wide: Improve facility security (secure entrances/cameras etc.)	2.11
District-wide: Upgrade/repair restroom facilities	1.97
High School: Replace ADA non-compliant bleachers	1.9

OCEF Grants to Oostburg District

Recently, the *Oostburg Community Education Foundation* (OCEF) granted over \$10,000 to the Oostburg Community schools. The Oostburg Elementary School Kindergarten classrooms received money for two Chromebooks and for classroom library books. The First Grade was awarded money for Chromebooks for the classroom. The Oostburg High School English Department has received money for classroom library books and the Technology Education Department was able to purchase a FabLab wide-format printer with their grant. With these grants, OCEF has contributed over \$115,000 to the District of Oostburg Schools, and continues to have a very direct and essential role in helping the students of these schools grow.

OCEF funds grant requests twice a year—fall and spring. The major fundraising effort of OCEF is their annual golf outing which will be held this coming year on September 12th at the Bull. Please consider supporting the OCEF golf outing by participating as a golfer, providing raffle prizes, or financially sponsoring the event in some way. We would also like to thank the individuals and businesses who have supported the OCEF golf outing over the years because the really considerable outcome is this generous support of our classrooms and students. The generosity of OCEF has had a tremendously positive impact on our schools for a long time and it is greatly appreciated.

Solo & Ensemble Participants

Congratulations to all District Solo and Ensemble participants as well as State Solo and Ensemble qualifiers! State competition was held on Saturday, April 25th at the UW-Milwaukee campus. Listed below are all of this year's middle school and high school choir/band competitors. The * next to certain names recognizes the student as a State qualifier through a solo or group event.

Middle School Participants: Madeline Block, Brianna Breunig, Elizabeth Brill, Tess DeVrou, Erin Fear, Emily Feder-spiel, Isabel Fuentes De Rehm, Gregory Gallenberger, Carsen Gatz, Jon Greupink, Johanna Hacker, Madelyn Hendrikse, Cameryn Hilbelink, Hannah Leaman, Autumn Lentz, Monica Mentink, Stephany Ratliff, Renee Rauwerdink, Jada Ritterling, Charlie Scherpereel, Emma Scherpereel, Austin Scholten, Jordynn Stenshaug, Ashley Swihart, Skylar Ternes, Samantha White, Lindsey Wilterdink, Abiageal Wing, Alexandria Wynveen

High School Participants: *Tyler Anderson, Samantha Beaudoin, Michael Becker, *Larissa Bichler, *Noah Birtell, Jamie Bloemers, Kaila Bloemers, *Danielle Bossler, Darcy Bossler, *Harrison Brill, Paige Bruggink, *Samantha Bruggink, *Baird Buck, Mikayla Burmesch, *Markie Lee Buyze, *Charlie Castillo, *Jake Daane, *Ben DeVrou, *Morgan Dulmes, *Kayla DuMez, *Felix Esqueda, Paige Gabrielse, Jarret Gasser, *Jacob Gross, *Jennifer Gross, *Nicholas Guy, Ashlea Haag, Drake Harmeling, *Nicholas Harmeling, Elizabeth Heinen, Lexi Hengst, *Dulce Hernandez-Blanchard, Marissa Herro, Reagan Hilbelink, *Emily Hocking, *Claire Hoffmann, *Erin Hoffmann, *Nathan Horne, Breanna Isken, *Jared Jarvis, Kennedy Jepson, Maatilor Josiah, *Thomas Kolocek, Emma Kolste, *Ben Kretz, *Emily Kretz, Julia Kwiatkowski, Farron Lammers, *Jeremy Lee, *Jordan Leaman, *Jon Leitzke, *Ben Loomans, *Benjamin Ludens, Joshua Ludens, *Tadeo Maier, *Brittany Maloney, *Alexander Malueg, *Miranda Markham, *Maxwell McCoy, Isaiah McKay, *Zachary Mentink, *Joe Minecci, *Jordan Molter, Savannah Mondloch, Jayden Navis, Krysta Oelhafen, Eva Parker, Katherine Parker, *Jade Paswaters, Angela Rauwerdink, Brenna Rauwerdink, *Angel Razo, *Noah Rinartz, *Jacob Rinartz, *Jesse Rogers, Isaiah Rondeau, *Mason Rood, Austin Rose, Crystal Scharenbroch, Hunter Scherpereel, Ashley Schinner, *Nicholas Schinner, *Greg Scholten, Wolfram Schwartz, Geneva Seal, Tia Stubler, *Adam Swart, Marissa TenHaken, *Jacob Theune, Ben Turner, *Jared Urban, *Addison VanEss, *Henry Vandevelde, *Bekah Veldhorst, *Mitchel Weinert, *Emily Wensink, *Alec Westerbeke, *Angela Wieskamp, *Jenny Wieskamp, *Tobias Wing



National Honor Society Induction

At Oostburg High School, we believe selection to the National Honor Society (NHS) is one of the highest honors of recognition we have to offer. This honor recognizes the "whole person" and is based on the four pillars of NHS. These pillars include: scholarship, character, leadership and service. The induction ceremony took place on April 20th, and the ceremony was primarily lead by current NHS members. Each current member selected a new member to induct and gave a 3-5 minute speech highlighting the inductee's accomplishments and specifically focused on how they felt the inductee displays the four pillars of the NHS on a consistent basis.

On behalf of the OHS Faculty and NHS selection committee, Mr. Josh Cole, the NHS advisor, is very pleased to announce the 2015 inductees: Seniors – Megan Daane, Ryan Hafeman, and Erin Hoffmann; Juniors – Janeese VerVelde, Jordan Leaman, Ryan Prinsen, and Kayla DuMez; Sophomores – Alec Arndt, Ben Kretz, Travis Hendrikse, Emily Wensink, and Mitchel Weinert

OCEF Golf Outing Planned

Oostburg Community Education Foundation (OCEF) is planning their 5th Annual Golf Outing on September 12, 2015, at The Bull at Pinehurst Farms. Check-in is 7:30 am with an 8:00 shotgun start. A 1:00 pm buffet lunch will be followed by awards and raffles. The cost of \$100 per golfer includes 18 holes of golf, cart use and lunch. \$400 per foursome includes 18 holes of golf, cart use and lunch. Only cash or check will be accepted the day of the event. All proceeds will benefit OCEF.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Sponsors are needed for the Tee Box, the Beverage Cart, the Lunch and the Event. There is also a general sponsorship available for cash donations or a raffle item.

Plan now to be part of this worthwhile outing. Call Terry Lemkuil at (920) 564-3611, Eric Hesselink at (920) 207-1505, or Carl Claerbout at (414) 520-0701, if you have questions or are interested in sponsoring any part of this event.

Destination Imagination 2014-15

Nothing To Fear

First, think of a phobia. Then, create a character who has that phobia. Next, create a fairy tale style story that tells how that character overcomes his or her fears. Include a piece of expressive artwork that visually represents the fear and a piece of functional artwork that helps the character overcome the fear. Create costumes, props and a theatrical set. Finally, present your fairy tale in an 8 minute skit before a panel of appraisers.

This is the challenge many of our Oostburg Destination Imagination teams tackled during this year's DI season. Oostburg Schools had nine Destination Imagination teams, a total of 58 students from various grade levels, involved in the DI program this year. Destination Imagination is a worldwide creative problem solving program that encourages creativity and teamwork. Various team challenge requirements include theatrical performance, structure building, improvisational acting, set design and construction, research and much more. Facilitated by an adult team manager, the kids work throughout the school year to create a solution to their challenge that is performed at a regional competition in March. Top teams advance to the state tournament in April. Four of our DI teams advanced to the state tournament this year. The Destination Imagination program in our district is coordinated by Curt Bretall.

Below are Oostburg's 2014-2015 DI team members and team managers.

A first and second grade team, managed by Cheryl Fuentes de Rehm and Andy Ramaker, included Jordin Fuentes de Rehm, Kalli Ramaker, Jaida Roussell, Mikayla Rogers, Ava VanEss, Addison TenPas and Savanna Buttram.

Another first and second grade team, managed by Joeleen Schwarz and Theresa Sandrone, included Falco Schwarz, Logan Sandrone, Kaylee Schmitt, Luis Zapata, Peyton Lewin and Lilly Claerbaut.

A third and fourth grade team, managed by Michele Block, included Miranda Block, McKinley DeBruin, Hailey VanEss, Hailey Bley, Holly Bley, Jacob Vertz and Alexander Sandrone.

Another third and fourth grade team, managed by Tamala Szyman and Colleen Schmidt, included Cece Szyman, Sydney Schmidt, Abby Gross, Emma Ottens, Adrian DePagter, Stephen Duter and Jenna Soerens.

A fourth grade team, managed by Lyza Reichelt, included Jordyn Lewin, Alexis Claerbaut, Alex Lund, Natalie Bichler, Skylar Ballman, Camdon DeBruin and Olivia Steck.

A fifth grade team, managed by Karen Leitzke, included Luke Lewis, Lesley Vasquez, Jessie Gross, Caeden Mueller, Chris Brown, Seth Paswaters and Dylan VanEss.

A middle school school team, managed by Cheryl Fuentes de Rehm, included Isabel Fuentes de Rehm, Hailey Simmons, Halle Schwartz, Samantha White, Madeline Block and Ashley Huibregtse.



Members of a first and second grade team perform.



Another middle school team, managed by Tracy Lund, included Camryn Lund, Sabryn Bley and Allissa Horne.

A high school team, managed by Jane Schinner and Bob Bichler, included Nick Schinner, Larissa Bichler, Emily Kretz, Jenny Wieskamp, Zach Mentink, Emily Hocking and Brittany Maloney.





Another first and second grade team performs.



A third and fourth grade team with managers Tamala Szyman and Colleen Schmidt



Some of the fifth grade team performing at Regionals.



Another Oostburg third and fourth grade team performs.



Performance by some of the high school team.



One of the middle school teams.

PTO Postings

Market Day: We are looking for a **Market Day Chairperson** to take over next school year. If no one is able to run this program, we will have to discontinue the monthly Market Day program. It requires about 10 hours a month of advertising work, entering orders and organizing the delivery days. Please contact Melissa Leaman at 564-6420 or Heidi Vertz at 920-889-7500 if you are interested or have questions regarding the position.

Mini-grants: The PTO awarded more than \$14,500 in mini grants in April 2015. These are the recipients.

- ♦ Jenn Swart was granted money for an arrow curtain and two left-handed bows.
- ♦ Sherri Stengel was awarded money to purchase eight Google Chromecasts.
- ♦ Dutchman Enterprises was awarded money toward the purchase of a wide format printer.
- ♦ Matt Poppe received money for a MarkerBot 3-D printer.
- ♦ Karri Krier received an award to purchase an easel and books for the classroom.
- ♦ Jackie Puerzer was awarded money for five iPads for the classroom.
- ♦ Jill Nyenhuis received an award for classroom bucks
- ♦ Mike Lauritson, Amy Antes and Ryan Ohlfs were awarded money for two iPads and two outer box cases.
- ♦ Laura Dolfen was given money to purchase chairs for the middle school library.
- ♦ Kim Ramaker and the kindergarten team were awarded a grant for books.

The PTO has awarded more than \$100,000 over the past six years for educational enrichment in our district.

Students of Service at Work Locally

Under the direction of Oostburg Elementary School Guidance Counselor Ashley Holzer, our Students of Service (SOS) recently made their fourth visit to Oostburg Pine Haven. The visits included painting with residents, crafts and playing bingo. We are fortunate to have opportunities like this near our school as our students definitely gain as much as they give while serving.

Other SOS projects have included a food drive, toy drive (including a trip to deliver the toys to Kapco in Grafton), cleaning cafeteria microwaves each day, promoting and organizing Jump Rope for Heart (where they raised over \$5,000 for the American Heart Association), and helping teachers around school (counting votes for favorite hot lunch, calculating total minutes read for the book fair, untangling and repairing jump ropes, etc.). The next project for SOS students will be creating tie blankets for Safe Harbor. Students of Service is made up of fifth graders who have a heart for serving others. They give up one lunch recess per week and choose to go to Pine Haven instead of attending their classroom holiday parties.



Students of Service doing crafts with the Seniors of Pine Haven.

Thank you to Mrs. Holzer and to our 5th grade Students of Service. Your efforts are an excellent reminder that there is nothing more rewarding than serving with no expectation of something in return. Our future is in good hands!

Celebration of Academic Achievement

On March 2, our traditional banquet was held to celebrate the academic achievements of the highest-ranking seniors at OHS and to recognize their most influential teachers. We congratulate the following students and their chosen teacher!

<u>Student</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Student</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Emily Kretz	Mrs. Tamala Syzman	Jordan Molter	Mr. Terry Hendrikse
Michael Meke	Mr. Kevin Veldhorst	Erin Hoffmann	Mrs. Jenna Howell
Jesse Rogers	Mrs. Rebekah Mueller	Ryan Hafeman	Mr. Barry Kloepping
Nicole Brill	Mr. Craig Keller	Brittany Gabrielse	Mrs. Gwen Pribek
Megan Daane	Mrs. Molly Hengst	Shannon Brill	Mrs. Amy Antes

The banquet is made possible due to the following generous sponsors: Breaking Bread, Networkers Funding, the Oostburg State Bank, the School District of Oostburg and the Oostburg Education Association. The direct involvement of local businesses make the Top Ten Banquet a community - not just a school - event.

Thank you for your continued support!

OMS Robotics Team Engineer 1st Place State Finish

A group of 23 sixth through eight grade middle school students have been working since late November, 2014, at designing, engineering, building and testing an underwater robot or Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV). Students organized their team into a business and applied for various jobs in the areas of electrical engineer, mechanical engineers, accounting, business administration, public relations, technical writing, and graphic design. Within this business structure, employees worked together in teams to write a high quality, ten page technical report, designed a professional looking poster board advertising display, gave a 20 minute presentation to a panel of judges, and competed in an underwater obstacle course with their ROV. Madelyn Hendrikse, team CEO and lead technical writer, said she was thankful for learning how to write technically as she thinks it is an important skill and will certainly help her in becoming a neonatologist or ER doctor. The team and their ROV, named Great White after its hydrodynamic high density polyethylene frame, competed at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee on Sunday, April 19th, against teams from around the State of Wisconsin. With the points totaled from the poster, presentation, technical report, and underwater mission, the Oostburg Middle School ROV team out-competed all other teams and placed 1st in the State of Wisconsin.



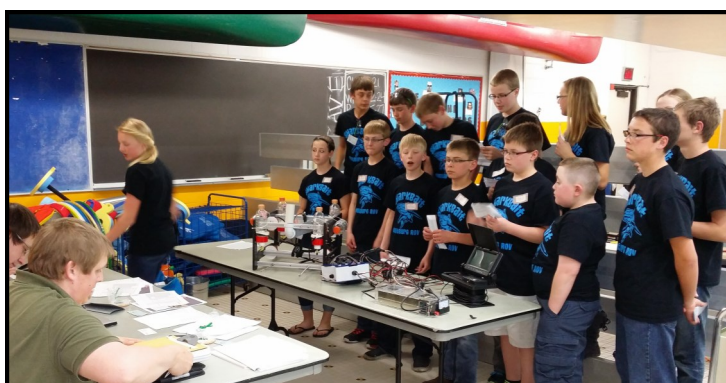
OMS ROV Team

"The team performed at a very high level throughout the year, which was evident on the day of the competition," stated mentor Terry Hendrikse when reflecting back on the ROV season. Hendrikse went on to say, "It is very rewarding to watch the amount of growth that takes place throughout the season. Students come onto our team having no idea about electronics or organizational skills necessary to run a business. As the season progresses, the team members become very knowledgeable and confident in their skills, which was obvious to all who were at this year's competition."

The primary purpose of the ROV team is to provide students with the opportunity to learn skills valuable to their future careers. Seventh grader and team accountant Taylor Miller said, "One thing I learned in ROV is how to make a budget sheet using a spreadsheet." 7th grader and team CFO Mackena Hendrikse agreed with Taylor and added that she also learned how to be a productive teammate and that you should never give up when facing a challenging problem."



The team shows what Great White can do as they put it through it's paces.



The OMS ROV team presents before the judges.



Summer School Set for Oostburg District

This year we are excited to offer two sessions of summer school for students currently in Kindergarten through 5th grade. The sessions will be Mondays-Thursdays (no Friday classes) from 8:30-11:30am. The first session is June 22 - July 2. The last session is August 10 - 20. The cost is \$10 per student, per session. All students will join in reader's and writer's workshops, math games and small group work. Every Thursday we will have a shortened class schedule to allow for organized games, both indoors and out, during the last hour of the day. Please contact the OES office at 564-2392 for more information or for a summer school registration form. Come and join us for a summer of fun and learning!

Bits & Bytes

- Monthly school calendars are available on the Oostburg District website.
- Check out past newsletters at www.oostburg.k12.wi.us/district/newsletter/NewsletterIndex.html
- Fitness Center hours: Check the current hours and available programs on the District website: www.oostburg.k12.wi.us
- Keep track of the balance of your Oostburg Schools lunch account at: www.ezschoolpay.com.

We invite your comments and suggestions. E-mail your thoughts to: Karen.Leitzke@oostburg.k12.wi.us.

Coming Up...

May	21 & 22 Voice34/Jazz Concert
	25 Memorial Day - No School
	31 Baccalaureate, 2pm, First Reformed
June	5 Scholarship Program, 7:30am, OHS gym
	7 Graduation, 3pm, OHS gym
	11 Eighth Grade Recognition, 7pm
	12 Student's Last Day of School
	17 School Board Meeting, 6pm

Look for the 2015-2016 school calendar in the next Community Connections newsletter.

Please Help Us Save...

- ~ Campbell's Soup Labels
- ~ Box Tops for Education
- ~ Used Ink Cartridges
- ~ Milk Caps



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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