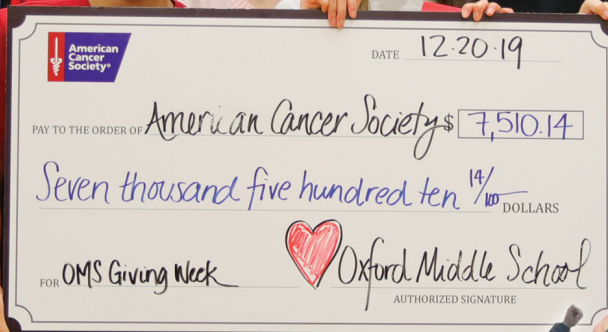




WILDCAT REVIEW

OXFORD COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Thousands of reasons for two teachers to camp out on the roof!



OXFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL

VISION *To create a world-class education today to shape tomorrow's leaders*

MISSION *To provide an education that challenges all students to achieve their maximum potential in academics, arts, and athletics and prepares them to succeed in a global society*

WINTER 2020

WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION



BOND & SINKING FUND UPDATES

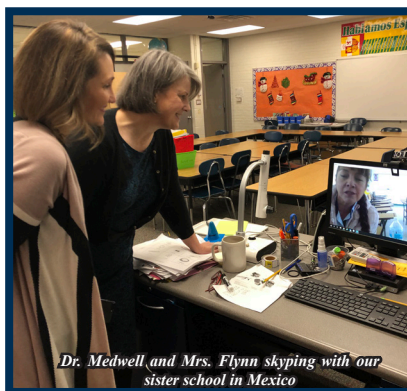
Series I bond work has now been completed. Much of the work is not easily seen but is certainly felt. The scope of the first series included new rooftop air handling units and HVAC digital controls, as well as a new roof at Oxford High School. More than 100 air conditioning units were installed in classrooms in elementary buildings district-wide, along with select ceiling, lighting, and flooring replacements. Daniel Axford received upgraded boilers and new electrical switchgear.

Below are photos of some of the items from Series I. Oxford High School's air handling unit is in the top photo. From left to right on the bottom is the new electrical switchgear, followed by the new boilers at Daniel Axford Elementary.

Bond and Sinking Fund Updates cont'd pg. 5



LEONARD ELEMENTARY PART OF IB STUDY



Dr. Medwell and Mrs. Flynn skyping with our sister school in Mexico



Dr. Medwell observing a class at Leonard

Leonard Elementary School is representing the United States in a global research study for the International Baccalaureate Organization. IB Programs are currently offered in 157 countries. The study is being led by the Director of Postgraduate Research, Dr. Jane Medwell, from the School of Education at The University of Nottingham in the United Kingdom.

Dr. Medwell flew to the U.S. in December to spend a few days in Oxford interviewing administrators, teachers, Primary Years Program (PYP) coordinators and students to collect data. She looked at the key aspects of the enhancements to the IB PYP, including multilingualism, inclusion of all children, promoting students to take action in their community as well as others. She shared that Leonard has given her "wonderful examples of these aspects of the curriculum." Additionally, she shared, "It is a school with a really warm, community focus and was a great place to spend a few days." Dr. Medwell will return to Oxford in May to continue her research.

THE ELECTRIC BUSES HAVE ARRIVED

The district's two new Lion electric buses arrived on flatbeds at the beginning of December. One made its debut in the Oxford Christmas parade on December 7. Once the buses arrived, they were plated and insured. Next, inspections began by the Michigan State Police Department. As each state has its own guidelines (and Michigan has some of the country's strictest), minor changes needed to be made, such as the size of the lettering on the side of the bus and the removal of any window stickers. The buses had their final inspections on the morning of December 20, and after passing with flying colors, they took giddy and excited children home that afternoon.

In preparation for the arrival of the electric buses, Oxford's transportation technicians were trained to service them, and the drivers underwent training to get comfortable with the slightly different turning radius these buses have compared to the other gas and diesel buses. Transportation Director Ann Weeden says, "While it has been a long two-year process, having the buses operating in Oxford has been worth every minute. The addition of two electric school buses is another example of Oxford Community Schools' dedication to innovation in education."

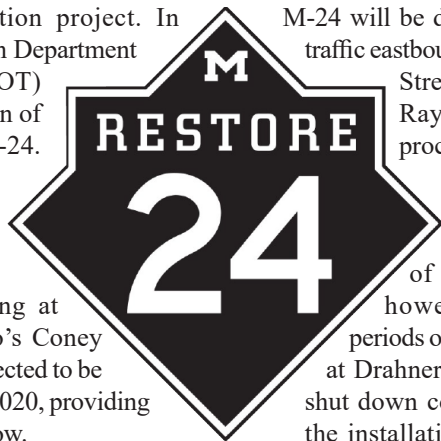


Photo credit Andrea Peck/Oakland Press

RESTORE M-24 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

What is happening?

By now, most people are sure to have noticed quite a bit of construction activity being performed around town requiring roadway lane closures along M-24 and certain side streets. These closures have allowed the infrastructure preparations to be completed for the upcoming Restore M-24 construction project. In March 2020, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will start the reconstruction of a five-mile portion of M-24. The project will begin at Goldengate Drive near the Kroger gas station in Lake Orion and extend through downtown Oxford ending at Gateway Drive near Leo's Coney Island. The project is projected to be completed by November 2020, providing the weather conditions allow.



The last time this stretch of M-24 in Oxford (also known as Washington St.) was completely reconstructed was nearly 100 years ago. Based on the condition of the roadway, another asphalt resurfacing project would not provide a long-term solution, so MDOT determined that the entire roadway will be removed from Drahner through downtown Oxford. Due to the comprehensive nature of the construction, this once-in-a-lifetime project will allow for the update of aging infrastructure, including the water main pipes, storm drains, and sanitary sewer lines. It also presents the perfect opportunity to update, enhance, and redefine downtown Oxford with a new streetscape design that will include new sidewalks, benches, bike paths, and landscape while also improving both vehicular traffic flow and pedestrian accessibility. According to the Oxford Downtown Development Authority,

the new streetscape will “develop a unique and transformative pedestrian streetscape that will frame the downtown district.”

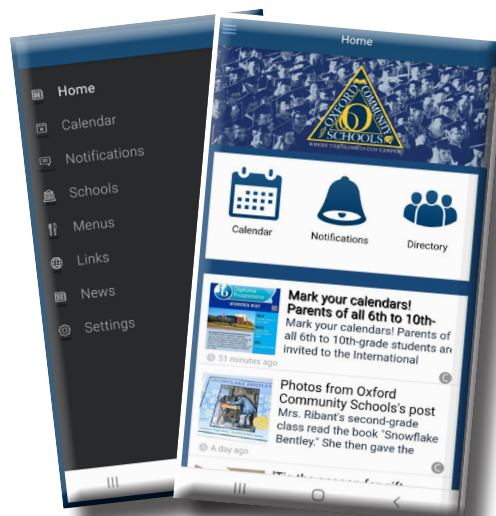
What does this mean?

During the bulk of construction from April through November 2020, northbound lanes on M-24 will be detoured at Drahner, turning traffic eastbound and then north on Glaspie Street and N. Oxford Road to Ray Road, where traffic will proceed west to reconnect with M-24. Southbound M-24 traffic will be reduced to one lane for the majority of the construction project; however, there will even be periods of time where the intersections at Drahner and Burdick Street will be shut down completely to accommodate the installation of new utilities. All in all, getting around town will be tricky and take much longer than usual.

What should you do?

Please pack your patience and plan ahead. Have your students use the Oxford Schools buses as often as possible and carpool- the fewer vehicles on the road, the better. Leave with an abundance of time to get to where you need to be on time. According to MDOT, 30,000 vehicles travel through downtown Oxford daily - that is a tremendous number of cars to detour. Check the MDOT and Oxford DDA (restorem-24.com) websites as well as social media for construction updates to stay informed on detours and project details. Finally, please continue to support our community's small businesses. This project will take time and will be inconvenient, but in the big picture, it will end in November, and Oxford will be better off for it.

DISTRICT APP GETS UPDATE



Oxford Community Schools free phone app recently received an updated look. The app is accessible through the iOS App Store for Apple devices or the Google Play Store for Android devices. It can be found by searching “Oxford CS” in either of the app stores. The app allows easy access to district information from a mobile device. Information such as the district's daily event calendars, the staff directory, including direct email links, important SchoolMessenger notifications, and our District Facebook feed can be found on the front page. There are also direct links to our most utilized online information such as Nutrislice, the district website, the athletics website, Powerschool, Haiku, and Send Money to School.

GOETZ WINS SHAPE AWARD



Oxford High School teacher Katie Goetz received the distinguished SHAPE-Michigan Honor Award-2019 from the Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE) on November 8, 2019. To achieve this award, recipients must show extensive commitment to excellence and service fulfilling numerous criteria. For the past 20 years, Goetz has been actively engaged in SHAPE America. She has presented at numerous workshops and conferences at the local, state, and national levels. She has held several officer positions and served on various committees in the Michigan Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (MAHPERD).

Goetz is a mentor inspiring the youth she works with in the most selfless ways leading them in the classroom, gym, and in life. According to her nomination from Debra Berkey, Ed. D. Professor Emerita in the Human Performance and Health Education Department at Western Michigan University, “I have had the honor of knowing Katie nearly two decades through our mutual service in the SHAPE-Michigan/MAHPERD, SHAPE-America/AAHPERD and as professionals in the field of physical education in joint ventures across Michigan. I have been associated with her during the majority of her teaching career in the Oxford Schools. She is a true professional. I can describe Katie in three words---Excellence in Motion. Katie is an educator whose impact is clearly observable in her students. She is a ‘Pay-It-Forward’ kind of professional. She is a mentor to her students as well as her colleagues. They learn to think critically, take care of themselves, demonstrate compassion and lead others responsibly. Every district needs a Katie Goetz.”

WELCOME, NEW STAFF!

ISABELLE ABRAHAM
OELC

CHRISTA ANDREWS
Nutrition Services

NICKOLE ANDERSON
Nutrition Services

BRIAN BELKOWSKI
Maintenance

SHAREEN DIGASBARRO
OMS Paraprofessional

ANDREA HARTHORN
PAC Assistant

CINDY HOUSTON
OELC Assistant Teacher

GLEN JONES
Transportation

RONNETTE LESLIE
Nutrition Services

KAYTLYN MCCLURE
OELC Assistant Teacher

MEG NICHOLSON
Payroll Specialist

JAIME NOWAK
Clear Lake Paraprofessional

MARCY PALMITER
Lakeville Paraprofessional

MARISA PRINCE
Nutrition Services

GABRIELLE RASTIGUE
OELC

CURTIS RICHARDSON
Transportation

JAMIE RODDA
OVA Mentor Teacher/Counselor

TONYA ROZEK
Nutrition Services

ASHLEIGH SCHMIDT
OELC Teacher

TRICIA SLONE
OVA Mentor Teacher

JENNIFER SPENCER
OELC Assistant

DR. GARY VAN STAVEREN
Assessment, Grants and School Improvement
Supervisor

ASHLEY WHISNANT
Nutrition Services

RICHARD WISNIEWSKI
OMS Technology Specialist

FLYNN VFW TEACHER OF THE YEAR

In January, Oxford's PYP IB Coordinator Rita Flynn was awarded the 2019-20 5th District Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Teacher of the Year for K-5th grade. Flynn shares, "I deeply appreciate being honored with this award, one that I truly believe so many deserve. As a part of my job, I make connections, and the connection that the VFW has with educators is that we 'serve.' We are all a piece of the serving puzzle. I am one piece. There are so many more. I am so joyful to be recognized, but I also feel that it is my duty to give my all."



NEARLY 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO STUDENT-ATHLETES

In 2019, Oxford Athletics bid farewell to two long-time coaches. With nearly 100 years of service to Oxford athletes between the two of them, coaches Terry Kelley and Bud Rowley coached their last seasons for Oxford Community Schools this past year. We are very thankful for their dedication and service.

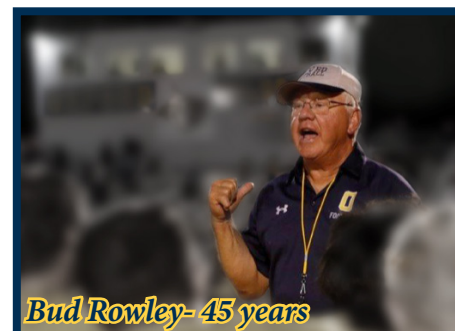
In 1971, Coach Terry Kelley walked through the doors of Oxford High School, never thinking he'd be guiding young student-athletes for the next 48 years. Kelley taught English, history, and business for Oxford Schools until retiring in 1995. In his first few years of teaching, he also coached at the junior high school level in multiple sports before moving to the high school. In 1973, he moved to the high school and coached the JV Girls' Basketball team under the direction of the legendary Ian Smith. "We were lucky to win as many games as we did. It was so much fun working with Smith and the rest of our staff," said Kelley.



Coach Kelley took over the golf program in 1995 and has been the leader of the Wildcats ever since. Some of Kelley's greatest accomplishments include finishing in the top 10 in the state in 2010 and awarding his top golfer with the "Keith Award." The Keith Award is named after a former Oxford golf athlete that passed away unexpectedly. Kelley still keeps in contact with many of his former athletes, including his current JV Coach, Anthony Frias. He positively influenced countless student-athletes and will be remembered for many years to come. Coach Kelley retired as Head Boys Golf Coach following his third championship season in 2019.

For the better part of the past 45 years, the Wildcat Varsity Football Team has been headed up by Coach Bud Rowley. Over that period, Coach Rowley led his teams to 275 wins, 166 losses, and one tie. He also took the Wildcats to three MHSAA State Championships and drove the team to bring home the 1992 State Championship title. Off of the football field, Coach Rowley taught physical education at Oxford High School for 36 years. After retiring from the teaching staff, he continued to report to the high school each day, working as the high school lunchroom monitor. It has been said that Coach Rowley very often purchased lunch out of his own pocket for students who were without, never expecting to be repaid.

While Coach Rowley has accumulated impressive numbers on the field, it is his love for Oxford High School and the town of Oxford that will be remembered most. "Coach Rowley bleeds blue and gold," said Oxford Community Schools Director of Athletics Jordan Ackerman. "I have never met an individual that is so passionate about the town where he or she lives. Coach Rowley is an icon of this town, and he will never be forgotten."



BOND & SINKING FUND UPDATES

Currently, Series II bond projects are in the planning and buyout stages. During this series, all buildings will have work done in them to varying degrees. As a reminder, there is one more bond series remaining to be completed during the summer of 2022.

In Series II, Oxford Middle School will see many needed infrastructure replacements, including a new fire alarm system and a rooftop chiller with related sanitary and heating pipes. New domestic water boilers, heating, and air conditioning controls will be installed. OMS will also receive new window treatments and exterior wall-mounted light fixtures. Oxford High School will have the hallways and cafeteria flooring replaced, along with select window treatments. The natatorium (pool area) will receive some attention this summer with the installation of a roof-mounted air handling unit and the refinishing of the surface of the pool.

In the elementary schools, Daniel Axford, Clear Lake, and Oxford Elementary Schools (including Oxford Early Learning Center) will have their parking lots repaved, select sidewalks repaired, and parking lot lighting replaced. These three schools will also have improvements made to their playgrounds. Daniel Axford will receive a new transformer and Oxford Elementary will have roller shades installed on all of the classroom windows. Additionally, updated fire alarm systems at Daniel Axford and Oxford Elementary Schools will be installed. All district elementary schools will have wall mounted light fixtures on the outsides of the buildings replaced.

Finally, to better accommodate our employees' needs, our Transportation building will have a new metal roof installed, and the lounge, offices, and bathrooms will be remodeled.

Please know district summer activities will once again be impacted by the bond construction. As planning continues, we will inform you of details as we are aware of them. The Summer Camp at OELC will once again need to operate out of a different district building for the upcoming summer. Due to work taking place in the parking lots and sidewalks of Oxford Early Learning Center (OELC) and Oxford Elementary School, the Summer Camp will be located at Lakeville Elementary. Due to licensing regulations, it will only be able to accommodate children aged 33 months to 12 years old. We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience this may cause our families with infants and toddlers and hope that the early notice will help in your childcare planning for this summer. Registration for Summer Camp will begin on March 2 for returning families and March 9 for new families. If you have any questions, feel free to call OELC at 248.969.5035.

BAND COMPETES AT NEXT LEVEL

Oxford Marching Band moved up competition categories from A to AA this fall, growing in size to compete with larger bands in the Division III region. They rose to the occasion and had a fabulous season, taking first place at the Lapeer Invitational, first place at the Brandon Invitational and second place at the Troy Athens Competition.



BAND ALUMNI REUNITED



Oxford Band Alumni Casey Conley ('16), Kaylie Seeling ('18), Braeden Anolick ('19), and Nicholas Trush ('19) playing at the collegiate level reunited when they performed on November 16, when the Wolverines took on the Spartans in the Big House. *Once a Wildcat, Always a Wildcat!*

FEBRUARY IS DEVELOPMENTAL KINDERGARTEN & KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT MONTH!

- All Day, Every Day • Age-Appropriate Instruction • Pre K-12 IB World School District •
- Fifth Core™ World Language & Culture Program • Language Arts • Science • Math
- Physical Education • Music • Art • Suzuki Strings Violin or Guitar • Technology
- Enhanced Classrooms •
- Certified Teachers • Childcare Options •

**TO BEGIN PRE-ENROLL ONLINE AT
WWW.OXFORDSCHOOLS.ORG**

The following documents are required to complete enrollment:

- TWO Proofs of Residency • Original Birth Certificate • Health Appraisal • Immunization Records • Vision Test
- Current Driver's License of Parent or Guardian •



GSRP Preschool

MICHIGAN'S NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED
PRE-K PROGRAM IS FREE FOR ALL
QUALIFYING FOUR-YEAR-OLDS

Call 248.969.5035 for more information

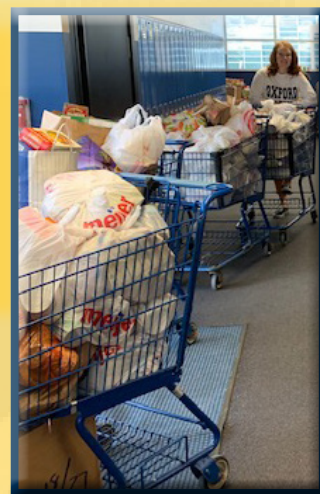
SERVICE

One aspect of the shared vision for Oxford Community Schools is for each student to emerge with the characteristic to be **CARING**. It is a focus of our staff and administration to ensure students graduate with empathy to contribute positively to the lives of others through a commitment to service and community. This can be seen in motion throughout the district at any given time.



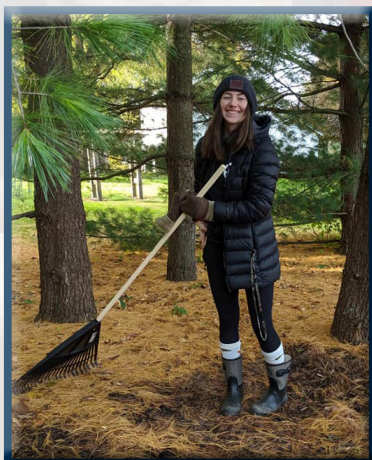
FISH FOOD PANTRY

Each year students collect food to provide to those in need through our community food pantry, FISH. This year the collection was outstanding across the board. Oxford High School set a goal to double their past number of collected items. Not only did they meet that goal, but they also exceeded it by donating 14,622 items.



OXFORD GIVES BACK FALL CLEAN-UP

OSEC students gathered together to help clean up yards of the elderly and ill in our community this fall.

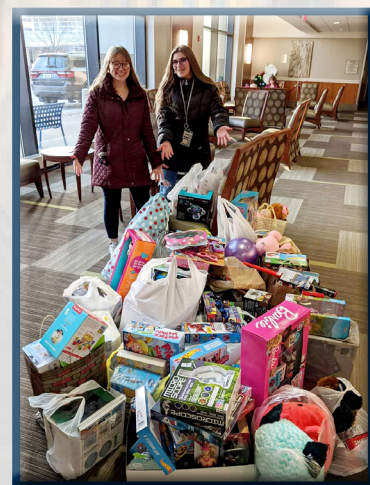


BLANKETS FOR NICU BABIES

Ms. Clemens' second graders decided to take positive action and make fleece blankets for the NICU at St. Joseph's Hospital. The hospital uses the blankets to cover the isolettes or to lay the babies on. The blanket then goes home with the family when the baby is discharged. They made and donated 12 blankets to the hospital this year. Each baby was able to get one on Christmas Day!

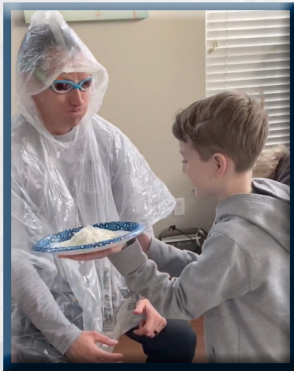
TOYS FOR SICK CHILDREN

OSEC students held their fifth annual toy drive for children who had to spend their Christmas in Royal Oak Beaumont Hospital.



must first become good servants."

- Robert Greenleaf



MITOCHONDRIAL DISEASE

Oxford Elementary students held Penny Wars raising money to support Mitochondrial disease. Funds raised not only went to help find a cure but also to offset the costs the Oxford robotics teams incurred in the rebuild of Gavin Lawrey's wheelchair last summer. Gavin is an Oxford student who bravely battles this incurable disease. Staff sweetened

the deal by challenging students to bring in at least \$700. If this amount was met, students in the class with the most points, along with Gavin, would each get to throw whipped cream in the face of an Oxford Elementary staff member. Students exceeded that set amount, raising more than double for a total of \$1,630.55. Mr. Fletcher's class won, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the reward!

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

Oxford Middle School celebrated the conclusion of its fifth annual week of Penny Wars, gifting the American Cancer Society (ACS) with a check for \$7,510.14 in an assembly on December 20. The donations continued to pour in afterward reaching a grand total of \$8,596!

Students voted to support and raise funds for the American Cancer Society. Throughout their Giving Week, the students spent five minutes each day participating in Penny Wars. Just before Christmas break, everyone came together for a moving assembly to present the funds to the ACS. Students and staff reflected in silence, holding signs that represented their loved ones who have been affected by cancer. Just last year, OMS lost one of its own, Brayden Andrews, to this dreaded disease. His parents shared their heartfelt thanks to the students for the support the Wildcat community has given to them during their most difficult moments. Students went beyond the fundraising efforts, and some created cards of hope and tie blankets to gift cancer patients at area hospitals.

As additional motivation for the Penny Wars, OMS teachers Mr. Smokovitz and Mr. Cady promised their students they would camp out on the school's roof for a night in January (as they did last year) if their class alliance raised the most money over the other classroom partnerships. Their students met the challenge, collecting \$1,757.55. The duo once again broadcast their rooftop experience on Youtube, garnering media attention, audiences from around the globe and almost \$1,000 in additional ACS donations.

This year they spiced things up by arranging for special guests from around the district to help entertain online audiences. Some did skits, others told stories, and most shared what the American Cancer Society cause personally means to them. Ultimately, it was a great celebration of the kindhearted and generous Oxford community.

In the past five years, Oxford Middle School has raised more than \$37K for charities through their Giving Week Penny Wars, making a positive difference in our world, one penny at a time.



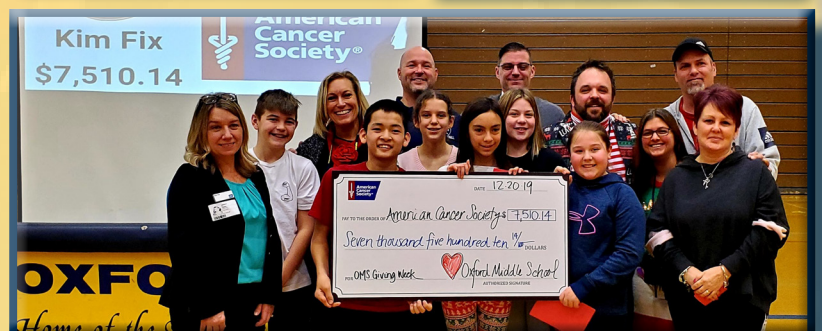
ROTARY CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Oxford High School Leadership and National Honor Society students served area seniors at the annual Oxford Rotary Club's Christmas Luncheon the school district hosts each year. Along with serving a delicious meal, Oxford Orchestra and Jazz Band provided beautiful entertainment for all attending.



K-9 STRAY RESCUE LEAGUE

Lakeville Elementary Student Leadership Team organized a blanket collection at their school building benefiting the K-9 Stray Rescue League in Oxford. The team was able to deliver 20 bags of collected donations to help the dogs stay warm this winter.



TOMORROW'S LEADERS



IN THE WORDS OF OUR WILDCATS!

Oxford Community Schools is proud to be the only International Baccalaureate (IB) school district in the state of Michigan. From elementary through high school, we are committed to the development of our students according to the IB learner profile. In this edition, we asked students at Clear Lake Elementary School to describe in their own words what it means to be *CARING*:

“That means to be nice to people and be kind.”
—Addison Clark, kindergarten

“Being a nice friend or being caring to the Earth, like picking up trash or litter.”
—Henry Machak, first grade

“Helping another person when they’re hurt. And you’re caring if when someone is feeling left out, you include them.”
—Tatum Zmikly, second grade

“To be nice to others and care for others, like when they’re hurt or helping them if they need it.”
—Mason Cramer, third grade

“I think doing things for others before yourself. And also, like thinking of others in their shoes.”
—Sarina Tan, fifth grade

“Caring means to help people, always being nice- not negative, and also means to say, “I can help”.”
—Olivia Smith, fifth grade

“Saying compliments, helping people with stuff they don’t know how to do and sharing knowledge with others.”
—Ari Halprin, fifth grade

DK-12 CAREER EXPLORATION

In 2018, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) released the Michigan Career Development Model. It is designed to provide all students (DK-12) with the necessary knowledge and skills for success in a career of their choice and for lifelong learning. Our goal, throughout our students’ years in Oxford, is to raise awareness around careers (DK-6), provide career exploration opportunities (7-8), and help prepare students (9-12) for their future careers.

During the early grade levels, students become familiar with careers through learning that connects classroom instruction to future work. For our elementary students, we design opportunities to raise awareness about future careers through picture books (each school has a career collection), costumes, PYP Exhibition project, field trips, career exploration software, etc.

Awareness at the elementary level occurs around the six career zones:

- Arts and Communication
- Business, Management, Marketing and Technology
- Engineering/Manufacturing and Industrial Technology
- Health Sciences
- Human Services
- Natural Resources and Agriscience



Exploration and preparation at the secondary level occurs around Michigan’s 17 Career Clusters allowing students to discover which pathway and careers best align with their interests:

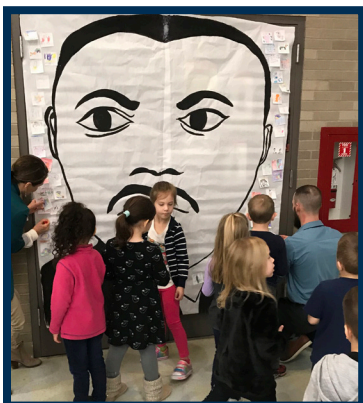


- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- Architecture & Construction
- Arts, A/V Technology & Communications
- Business, Management & Administration
- Education & Training
- Energy
- Finance
- Government & Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
- Marketing
- Manufacturing
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

Through embedded classroom lessons and activities, students start to develop an Educational Development Plan (EDP) and a Talent Portfolio. We begin with learning style and interest surveys, with special attention dedicated to career and college

DK-12 Career Exploration cont'd page 11

WHAT IS YOUR DREAM?



In January, the country celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for his dream and efforts to create freedom, equality, and dignity for all people. In a collaborative art project at Lakeville Elementary, each student, in a school-wide initiative, wrote or made a picture of their dream for a better world. After each student placed their dream square, the end product was very moving.

OHS CHOIRS PERFORM AT DISNEY WORLD



Oxford High School Choirs were selected by Walt Disney World to perform in the prestigious nationwide chorus of advanced choirs at Epcot Center in Orlando, Florida. Choir Director Christopher Card brought 47 OHS choir students to perform fourteen songs in two candlelight processions at Epcot Center on December 18, just before Christmas. The celebrity narrator for their performances was Pat Sajak. Oxford vocalists sang with Epcot's outstanding eight-person a capella group Voices of Liberty and approximately 250 other vocalists from around the country accompanied by a 50 piece orchestra.

LANGFELDT ACHIEVES ALL-STATE FIRST CHAIR



Oxford Schools Early College fourth-year student Selina Langfeldt achieved the great honor of being named First Chair Oboe in the Michigan All-State Full Orchestra. She traveled to Grand Rapids for the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (MSBOA) State program on January 16-18. Selina had the prestigious opportunity to rehearse with students from around the state. The outstanding high school musicians were led by nationally-recognized conductors and performed in a

concert the final day. Additionally, Selina took first place in an Oakland Youth Orchestra Concerto competition, earning the opportunity to play a solo at the February 6, 2020, Oakland Youth Orchestra concert.



FALL ATHLETICS HIGHLIGHTS

This fall, Oxford student-athletes excelled in and outside of the athletic arenas. Please see oxfordathletics.org for the list of over 100 athletes receiving academic recognition by achieving more than a 3.5 GPA during their fall sports season. Here are some of the teams' season highlights:

CROSS COUNTRY - BOYS

- OAA All-Conference and All-Region: Scott Masterson

CROSS COUNTRY - GIRLS

- OAA All-Conference and All-Region: Lauren Methner

FOOTBALL

- OAA All-League Honorable Mention: Matt Pullman, Logan Nicks, Nathan Call and Drake Biggie

GOLF - GIRLS

- All-State Academic Team earning a team GPA of 3.5

SOCCER - BOYS

- All-State Team: Marco Artero and Zach Townsend
- OAA First Team: Marco Artero, Zach Townsend, Colin DeRoso and Rory Vince

SWIM & DIVE - GIRLS

- All-Conference: 200 Medley Relay, 400 Freestyle Relay, Jenna Fistler- 200 Freestyle, Ashlee Weltyk- 100 Backstroke, Cali Schnur- 100 Butterfly, Amelia Knotts-Diving
- Broke school records for the 200 Medley Relay, 100 Breast Stroke, and 400 Free Relay
- 2019 State Qualifiers: Amelia Knotts, Grace Charnstrom, Jenna Fistler, Cali Schnur and Ashlee Weltyk
- College Signing: Ashley Weltyk - University of Illinois at Chicago

TENNIS -BOYS

- OAA Blue Division League Champions
- OAA Blue Division Tournament Champions
- OAA All-State Academic Team
- OAA All-League players: Hayden Durant, Brock Heilig, Cameron Mumbrue, Gabe Smith, Chase Maier, Dane Von Allmen, Silas Von Allmen

VOLLEYBALL

- MIVCA Top 10 Honorable Mention
- All-Region: Emma LaBarge, Molly Miller, Maddy Weiss
- OAA All-League First Team: Sydney Richter
- College Signing: Madelyn Weiss- Shepard University

OHS THEATER PERFORMS CLUE

OHS Theater put on the fun and wildly entertaining play *Clue* this fall. The show had four performances over November 21 - 23 in the Performing Arts Center. Director Krista Price tried something new this year. She had two casts for a handful of key characters, each cast performing two shows a piece. Both casts did an amazing job and the show went off seamlessly for all four performances.



SECOND PLACE IN FILM FESTIVAL

Oxford High School ninth-grade student Charlie Fracker took second place in the ONTV's Wildwood Film Festival for the production of short film, Wildcat Gold. This marks Charlie's third year competing in the film festival. He won first place in the youth category his first year, and for the past two years he has competed in the adult category (17+) earning second place each time. OHS ninth-graders Ryan Shick, Jake Olheiser, Charlie Fracker, Keegan Upham, and Zach Cabanillas worked together to write, film, star in, and edit Wildcat Gold. Check out their award-winning short film online for yourself at <https://youtu.be/LBvV9FdbiKc>.

LEARNING ON THE ROAD



As part of our aim to educate students in both college and career choices, Oxford Middle School eighth graders traveled in various directions in November. Some students traveled to Washington, D.C., while others headed to our state's capitol, Lansing. They enjoyed learning about U.S. and Michigan government and history.

In Lansing, students met Governor Gretchen Whitmer and State Representative John Reilly and were formally recognized by Speaker of the House Lee Chatfield. Learning of the branches of government, students participated in a mock trial and toured the Capitol building. They also spent time at Michigan State University for a college tour and had lunch at Brody Residential Dining Hall.

The remaining students traveled to Washington, D.C. On their way, they toured Gettysburg battlefields and enjoyed a meal at the historic Dobin House built in 1776. Next, students met a Holocaust survivor and listened to his story at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, visited the Capitol and Library of Congress, George Washington's Mt. Vernon estate, toured the Smithsonian museums, explored the many D.C. monuments and experienced the wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National cemetery.

OMS STUDENT AWARDED IN COUNTY-WIDE CONTEST



Oxford Middle School (OMS) seventh-grade student Ava Tarach was awarded one of five honorable mentions in the middle school category of the "I Voted" Sticker contest. The contest was organized by The Celebration of Women's Suffrage Movement Ad Hoc Committee with collaboration with the Oakland County Intermediate School District and the Cornerstone Community

Financial Credit Union. Ava, along with the other students in Ms. McNeill's seventh-grade Geography class at OMS, created a design for the contest. Ava's entry was one of more than 600 submissions that were judged on the use of creativity, artistic skill, execution, and interpretation of the theme of "The 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage." She was recognized on November 20, 2019, at the Oakland County Board of Commissioners meeting. Ava is pictured above with Oakland Schools' Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Dr. Michael Yocum, next to her submission.

DK-12 CAREER EXPLORATION

exploration to help our students identify their strengths. This strategic focus helps our students better understand themselves, their interests, and their passions. Further, as students move into high school, they continue to reflect on and revise their EDPs. Students are provided opportunities for work-based learning and are making connections with professionals in a variety of fields. Every student at Oxford High School (OHS) has the unique opportunity to experience industry visits, participate in a job shadow placement or even explore an internship during their pathway journey that will allow them to discover careers and begin to find their passion for life after high



school. Career and Technical Education (CTE) program opportunities are widely available at OHS for our students to gain the necessary academic, technical, and work skills needed to help them succeed in college and careers as well.

The goal is to offer our students multiple classes, opportunities, experiences, views, voices, and connections to prepare them for life after high school. This may include college, career, military service, or a custom combination. With an intense

focus on building strong relationships with our students in a collaborative environment, we are seeing a culture that all students (DK-12) and staff alike are fully embracing. Oxford's K-12 Career-Focused Education Coordinator Lisa Butts shares, "It is exciting to see the progression of opportunities and to collaborate with one another to provide students with experiences that have them thinking about their futures!"

TOWNSEND - TOP 25 RECRUIT

Senior Oxford basketball player Trey Townsend was named one of the top 25 most sought-after basketball recruits in the state of Michigan this fall, according to news outlet Mlive. Last season Townsend averaged 19 points and eight rebounds, helping take his team to the sweet 16. Trey not only excels on the court, but also in the classroom, garnering an excellent GPA. He has already received college offers and has decided to follow in his father's footsteps by accepting an offer with Oakland University.



ONCE A WILDCAT, ALWAYS A WILDCAT.

CATCHING UP WITH AN OXFORD ALUMNUS...

Oxford Virtual Academy (OVA) graduate Zane Taylor ('13) is our featured alumnus in this edition. Zane is currently a Realtor in Shelby Township, MI. He is very grateful for the opportunities and outstanding care and support the OVA program and staff provided him.

"Growing up in Oxford was, still is, one of my greatest memories. I still visit my childhood home once in a while, and most weekends you can probably find me around Oxford with some of my greatest, oldest friends. The guidance I have received from the teachers, some I still communicate with today, helped set me up for my future and to achieve something great. I had not always had the greatest outlook on my future; however, some incredible people did and pushed me to have an abundance mindset to *achieve*.

As I reflect on my time as a Wildcat, I cannot help but think of and thank those who pushed me, guided and believed in me when I did not believe in myself. I have been a cook, a certified HazMat Tech/Confined Space worker, an Auto Technician, and headed a team of people at Menard's in landscaping. I most recently graduated from The Michigan Institute of Real Estate in 2018. Today I am proud to say I am a realtor on The Leone Team at Keller Williams Realty Lakeside in Shelby Township. Our office is blessed to be able to help thousands of families per year and we are steadily increasing the number as our clients become our family, not just a transaction. The Leone Team is in the top five percent of realtors in the state of Michigan, granted to us by Hour Media-Real Estate All Stars. I am also a member of our KW Culture Committee, we help in many different ways to give back to our local communities and provide a better life for all.

Recently, I spoke to a large group of OVA faculty and staff. As I was preparing for the speech, I had realized an important lesson that ended with a question. We all have hard times, some bad grades, off days and different lives, some get pushed or outcast. However, I challenge to defy what a few may think to show the many. What I have learned throughout my life and my time in Oxford and knowing these great people is that **EVERYONE** is destined for something great IF you work hard for it and continue to fail and get up, fail and get up. You only lose when you fail and stay down. When you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change. So, my question is, what will you do with your time?

Thank you to Mr. Balsley, Mr. Woody(R.I.P.), Mr. Yinger, Mrs. Schell, Ms. Boggs, Ms. Hurford, Mr. Amabile, Mr. Roop, Mr. Cady, Mrs. Rank, Mr. Thaler and many more. Without your help, from the Oxford Schools programs I would not be who I am today. Please keep doing what you do! "



VISION SCREENING FOR INCOMING KINDERGARTENERS

If you have an incoming kindergartener, Michigan Law (Public Health Code – Act 368 of 1978 and the 1995 Revised School Code, Act 291) mandates vision screening before kindergarten entry. The goal of the law is early identification and treatment of vision problems that can affect a child's ability to learn. Vision Screening that is done in preschool by a health department technician or doctor's office fulfills this requirement. Oakland County Health Division offers free vision screening by appointment for all county children who will enter kindergarten. Please call 248-424-7070 to set up an appointment. If you have any questions, contact Oakland County Hearing and Vision Program Coordinator Dianne Ferber at 248-424-7071.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tom Donnelly Jr.	President
Chad Griffith	Vice-President
Korey Bailey	Treasurer
Heather Shafer	Secretary
Dan D'Alessandro	Trustee
Erick Foster	Trustee
Mary Hanser	Trustee

ADMINISTRATION

Tim Throne	Superintendent
Ken Weaver	Deputy Superintendent of Instruction & Curriculum
Sam Barna	Assistant Superintendent of Business & Operations
David Pass	Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Denise Sweat	Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

OXFORD COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
10 N. WASHINGTON
OXFORD, MI
48371

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 38
OXFORD, MI

DATED MATERIAL - PLEASE PROCESS

EDDM ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON

The Wildcat Review is published for residents and families of the Oxford Community Schools District.
All residents receive this publication because of their support for the district through tax payments.
Editor, Danielle Stublensky - danielle.stublensky@oxfordschools.org



10 N. WASHINGTON, OXFORD, MI 48371 | WWW.OXFORDSCHOOLS.ORG
facebook.com/oxfordcommunityschools



McLAREN OAKLAND URGENT CARE



385 North Lapeer Road, Oxford
(248) 628-3000

mclaren.org/oxfordurgentcare



✧ X-ray /Diagnostic Imaging

✧ Physical Therapy

✧ Laboratory Blood Draw Station

Non-Discrimination Clause: Oxford Community Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex (sexual orientation or gender), disability, age, height, weight, marital status or any other legally protected characteristic, in its programs, services or activities, including employment opportunities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

David Pass, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, 10 North Washington Street, Oxford, MI 48371, (248) 969-5004.