

NORTHERN OZAUKEE
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Spring/Summer 2025

WARRIOR CONNECTION



123

Open Enrolled-IN
students from
outside district
boundaries

5

Municipalities
Served

Village of Fredonia
Town of Fredonia
Town of Saukville
Town Belgium
Village of Newburg

\$1.15 M +

Amount Bruce Krier
Foundation has
gifted NOSD over
the last nine years

\$164,000 +

Scholarship money
awarded to the Class
of 2025






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for more information

Hello Northern Ozaukee School District Community!

On behalf of our team, thank you for taking the time to read the latest edition of our NOSD Spring/Summer Newsletter. Our students, staff, and families have created an outstanding school district where we know and care about our students. NOSD is focused on preparing our next generation for life with the skills and core values that will allow them to make a positive impact in the lives of others.

Thank you again to our community for successfully passing a four-year operational referendum back in November 2024. As part of this referendum, there were three key commitments made as to how the money would be spent including:

-  Hire a total of three additional teachers to address large class sizes at OES & OMS
-  Fill the budget deficit needed to run day-to-day operations of the school
-  Retain and attract high-quality teachers and support staff

The Board of Education and the NOSD team have followed through on each one of these commitments listed above while also keeping the school portion of the tax bill the same.

We hope that you enjoy this edition of the Warrior Connection newsletter that is sent to every member of our community two times each year. Our hope is that even if you don't have school-age kids attending our schools, that you too can see all of the good that is happening and how our schools are a central hub of this great community.



Thank you and go Warriors!

Sincerely,

Dave Karrels
Superintendent



WALKING THE PATH OF A WARRIOR:

How NOSD is Living its Core Values:

At NOSD, preparing students for life beyond the classroom isn't just a goal; it's a driving force for success at all grade levels, 4K-12th. We believe that every student is on an individual journey- a path of growth, purpose, and achievement. That is why we've embraced the **PATH of a Warrior** as the foundation of everything we do. PATH stands for **Partnership, Achievement, Transformation, and Help**- four values that define who we are, what we believe, and how we help prepare students for life beyond NOSD.

Over the past several years, we have been intentional about bringing the PATH to life. We strive to do this not only through lessons but also through relationships, opportunities, and shared commitment to helping every student reach their full potential.

While each of the values is equally important, we take pride in fostering partnerships with various stakeholders to provide a more enhanced learning experience for all of our students. This looks different at every level, however, each level fits together to foster meaningful partnerships.

Regardless of where our students are, they need to know there is a team of educators ready to assemble a PATH of opportunities to target their finish line. For students on a 4-year college track, we offer various



Greyson Haack ('25) working to repair a tire at Jimmy B's. Greyson works for Jimmy B's through Ozaukee Youth Apprenticeship (OYA).

40%

OF ALL JUNIORS AND SENIORS PARTICIPATE IN WORK STUDY



Kamrin Kunz ('25) reading with a kindergartner at Ozaukee Elementary School. Kamrin works for Ozaukee Elementary School through Ozaukee Youth Apprenticeship (OYA).

10%

OF ALL JUNIORS AND SENIORS ARE A PART OF THE OZAUKEE YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM (OYA)

of the ones that students engage with towards the starting line. When thinking about partnerships at the elementary level, we do not have to look far. Some of the most notable school and community based partnerships are with both the Fredonia and Waubeka Fire Departments, Port Washington State Bank, the Saukville VFW, and the Village of Fredonia. In addition, we have selected students to participate in the annual Association of Wisconsin-Area Kodaly Educators (AWAKE) choir, and make ornaments and cards for Project Angel Hugs: a non-profit organization out of Plymouth, Wisconsin that brings joy to children facing with cancer.

Another example of a partnership at the Middle School level is the school's work with the Fredonia Lions Club. Our Leo club partners with the Fredonia Lions Club to enhance their work in the community. This is done through fundraising and raising awareness.

As we continue walking the PATH of a Warrior, **P**artnership stands as a cornerstone of our mission- connecting students, educators, families, and community members in a shared commitment to student success. These partnerships, whether formed near the starting line or in the final stretch, are what make the journey rich with possibility and purpose. But our journey doesn't end here. In upcoming editions of the Warrior Connection newsletter, we'll take a closer look at how we **A**chieve our goals, **T**ransform our learning outside of the classroom, and **H**elp one another when challenges arise. You will not want to miss out on how we are walking the PATH of a Warrior at NOSD.

course options that either result directly in dual credit (high school and college) or potential future college credit. These options include Advanced Placement (AP), Cooperative Academic Partnership Program, which is offered through UW-Oshkosh (CAPP), and College Credit In High School, which is offered through UW-Green Bay (CCIHS)-college courses taught by OHS teachers, and the Early College Credit Program (ECCP).

Some of our students are on the PATH to becoming skilled trades professionals. The District has identified this as a need and has taken great strides to enhance our Tech Ed courses, offer certification testing, provide access to dual credit courses at our local Technical Colleges through Start College Now (SCN) and connect our students with local businesses and employers to experience firsthand what it takes to excel in certain trades.

Did you know that OHS Juniors and Seniors can participate in the Ozaukee Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYA)? OHS has consistently had 10 - 20 percent of eligible students participate in OYA. Students are provided the opportunity to be employed in areas of future interest and perform work that is often restricted to 18-year-olds. The required 450 hours give students a comprehensive experience and help them picture what it would be like in that role. In addition, hours earned as a youth apprentice can be credited toward the required hours as an adult apprentice.

Another opportunity for our Junior and Senior students is the Work Study program. When combined with the required WI Employability Skills Course, this allows our upperclassmen the chance to turn work into credit and earn a state employability skills certificate. By partnering with local employers, students develop a comprehensive awareness of valuable skills that help them find employment success.

While it is easy to focus on partnerships that happen towards the end of the journey, it is important not to lose sight

21%

OF ALL JUNIORS AND SENIORS ARE ENROLLED IN A CAPP/CCIHS COURSE

Gavin Wood ('25) and Mackenzie Burrows ('25) are certified CNAs who currently work for Aurora Health Center. Their work is done through Ozaukee Youth Apprenticeship (OYA).





100%

of the vendors
responded that
they would
participate again

Ozaukee Youth Entrepreneur Event Inspires and Impresses at the First Annual Event

On February 23rd, the spirit of innovation and ambition was alive at the first annual Ozaukee Youth Entrepreneur Event, where students from grades 3rd through 12th stepped into the spotlight as the community's youngest business leaders.

The event brought together an impressive number of student entrepreneurs who showcased and sold their handmade goods and creative products. From homemade jewelry and baked goods to custom artwork and tech-savvy creations, the range of talent and imagination on display was nothing short of inspiring for all.

The event provided a platform for these young individuals to experience real-world business interactions, while developing communication and finance literacy skills. More importantly, it offered the opportunity to gain the confidence that comes from pursuing a passion and seeing it through.

Families, friends, and community members came out in full support, creating an energetic, encouraging atmosphere. Shoppers not only discovered unique, student-made products, but also had the chance to engage with the students to learn more about their creative process.

"The event allowed students to experience the Lemonade Stand feel in a safe selling environment. It gave NOSD students a voice and space to explore what it means to be a young entrepreneur," said Lori Marini, the event organizer. "The turnout and support from the community were incredible, and I can't wait to see the event grow in the future."

Brenda Pawling, a student vendor's mom, said, "This was a great opportunity for the children to witness what they can accomplish with hard work and forward thinking. The smiles on their faces when people were lined up at their booths were priceless."

With such a successful first annual event, the Ozaukee Youth Entrepreneur Event is already shaping up to be a cherished annual tradition. We look forward to watching these young business leaders grow, and to welcoming even more bright ideas next year.

Next year's market will be on Sunday, March 1, 2026. Mark your calendars now, you won't want to miss it. The event will take place in the NOSD cafeteria and OHS atrium.



63

Youth Vendors



OVER
500
ATTENDEES



District Financial Snapshot

As the school year wraps up, so will the District's fiscal year. With the passing of NOSD's operational referendum in November 2024, the school district will end the year with a positive financial statement. Surplus from this year will be committed for future budget years, as the school district chose to ask for a flat dollar amount each year of the referendum and this will help cover needs in later years.

During the process of our operational referendum, it was communicated that "the school board plans to keep the school portion of the tax bills the same over the next four years." The school board was able to fulfill that plan in year one of the referendum, passing a budget in October with the same tax levy as the prior year - holding taxes the same across the district. Individual tax bills may have fluctuated slightly based on how the total taxes are allocated across municipalities and individual parcels, but most residents should have seen a very minimal change to the school portion of their tax bills.

Hiring additional teachers was part of the identified needs for the additional funds with the referendum. After the successful referendum, administration reviewed the needs of the large class sizes within the specific grade levels. It was identified that the 2nd grade classes would hire a teacher mid-year for 2024-25 - which the District was able to hire to address the immediate needs. The other two positions were determined that it was best to wait until the completion of the school year, in an effort to hire the best qualified candidates. NOSD is pleased to share that we have hired staff to fill these new positions for 2025-2026, prior to the last day of this school year.

Every other year, school districts must wait for the State of Wisconsin to pass their biennial budget before knowing what funding will be committed to school districts in the following two years. We are currently in the state's budget cycle, as of the end of May school districts have many questions related to the size of funding changes that will affect each district. One thing that is for certain for NOSD is that we are able to rely on the approved operational referendum funding over the course of next three years.

While there will continue to be future funding needs, NOSD can be proud of the current financial position of our district and grateful for the community support.



Joshua McDaniel, CPA
Director of
Business Services

TAX LEVY

2023-24 **\$7.56M**

2024-25 **\$7.56M**



720

Highest student
enrollment since 2018

5 Consecutive years
of not needing to
borrow funds for
District operations



ANNUALLY

Independent
financial audit
completed annually

From the Principals



Elementary School - LYNN KUCHARSKI



At Ozaukee Elementary, we're fortunate to have access to incredible outdoor spaces right here on our NOSD campus—including the school forest and the pollinator prairie, which provide amazing opportunities for hands-on learning and exploration.

Each quarter, our students and teachers head outside to connect classroom learning with the natural world. Through our community partnership with Riveredge Nature Center and support from our Scientist in Residence, Rachel Race, teachers have been developing engaging outdoor lessons that spark curiosity and deepen understanding.

This year, students explored a variety of topics outdoors: 4K studied winter animals in Wisconsin, kindergarteners practiced sorting and categorizing, 1st graders learned about animal habitats, and 2nd graders took a senses hike and wrote using figurative language. 3rd grade tracked weather patterns, 4th grade measured trees, and 5th grade studied different types of maps. Even our Encore classes—art, music, library, and phy ed—took learning outside!

We hope these experiences inspire students to keep exploring nature with their families all year long!



High School - MATT ZAVADA



At Ozaukee High School, we're proud to offer students meaningful opportunities through strong community partnerships.

This year, our National Honor Society raised funds to purchase holiday gifts for six foster children, packed boxes for Operation Christmas Child, and used a grant from NASSP to serve meals at the Portlight Shelter. Our Leo Club, in partnership with the Fredonia Lions Club, hosted bingo at Forest Haven, volunteered at the Lions winter chicken fry, packaged birthday kits for the Ozaukee Food Alliance, and led an eyeglass drive.

In the spring, we collaborated with local emergency services for a powerful mock accident event on the dangers of distracted driving, attended by students, parents, and community members.

These experiences foster leadership, compassion, and civic responsibility. We thank our community partners for their continued support in helping our students grow and make a difference.

Middle School - CHARLIE SCHWARTZ



As we reflect on the 2024-25 school year, we want to celebrate the many accomplishments of our students and staff at Ozaukee Middle School.

The OMS LEO Club, led by advisor John Kirmse, volunteered at the Ozaukee Food Alliance and the Fredonia Lions Chicken Fry. All students completed Forward Testing, with grades 6–8 taking Reading and Math, and 8th grade also completing Science and Social Studies.

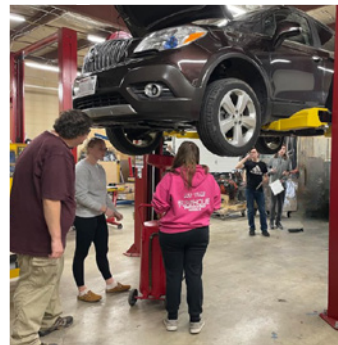
7th graders attended a career fair at Lakeshore Technical College, organized by Andy Gremminger with support from Sandy Henke. 8th grade visited the Illinois Holocaust Museum, organized by Lindsay McBride and Mrs. Henke. 6th graders showcased their coding projects for families and elementary students, thanks to Kevin Luedtke.

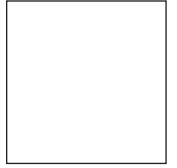
In science, 8th grade students held boat races, while 6th-grade students created weather reports, both led by John Kirmse.

The 7th grade also welcomed guest speaker Carl Wilkens, who shared his powerful experiences during the Rwandan genocide.

Thank you to our dedicated staff who helped provide these opportunities, students and families.

- PATH OF A - WARRIOR





MISSION (our core purpose)

Educate young men and women
to develop strong character and
prepare them for the future

VISION (our future)

To pursue excellence at all
levels of our district



COMMUNITY EVENTS

* Denotes an event recommended for the community.

- Aug. 26:** OES School Supply Drop-off
New to OMS Family/Student event
NOSD Back to School Picnic *
- Aug. 27:** New Student/Freshmen orientation
- Sept. 2:** 5K-12 First Day of School
- Sept. 3:** 4K First Day of School
- Sept. 8:** Student Pictures
- Sept. 16-19:** 7th Grade Camp
- Oct. 8:** Powder Puff/Macho Volleyball*
- Oct. 9:** OES Families Breakfast Buddies (A-L)
- Oct. 10:** OES Families Breakfast Buddies (M-Z)
Homecoming Football Game *
- Oct. 11:** Homecoming Dance
- Oct. 13:** Picture Retakes
- Oct. 14-15:** OES Parent Teacher Conf. by Appt.
- Oct. 17:** No School
- Oct. 20-24:** OHS Parent Teacher Conf. by Appt.
- Nov. 07:** Records Day- No Students
- Nov. 14-16:** NOSD Musical: "Working" *
- Nov. 26-28:** No School
- Dec. 11:** 4K - 2nd Winter Concert *
- Dec. 18:** OMS/OHS Winter Band Concert *
- Dec. 22:** OMS/OHS Winter Choir Concert *
- Dec. 24-Jan 2:** No School

2025-2026 NOSD School Board



From Left to Right Front Row:

Dan Large (Vice President), Jeff Decker (Member), Kevin Klas (Member), Stephen Burmesch (Member), Brent Neis (President), Jennifer Clark (Treasurer), Jodi Schubert (Member), Mindy Tesker (Member), Hal Steffen (Clerk)



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