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

SPRING 2021
As plans ramp up for the summer parking lot paving we cannot help but grin with excitement over the new district additions that will be driving on those new parking lots! From the start of the bond proposal in 2017, the district was committed to use any remaining funds from the three series of work to purchase new buses. As we have communicated before, our bus fleet has been long overdue for upgrades with some buses as old as 19 years (2002) with 220,000+ miles on them. Although we were hoping to replace some, we never anticipated the interest rates being as low as they are and Clark coming in under budget on completed jobs. We are beyond thankful and thrilled to say we will have enough remaining bond money to purchase 19 new buses! This means a full fleet of 40 full size buses that do not exceed five years old. Not only will this lessen maintenance costs dramatically, the new buses are more fuel-efficient as well reducing costs in that realm too. Additionally, our fleet size has been reduced by two buses, as we do not find it necessary to keep as many spare buses for breakdowns.

Our transportation team is very excited as well. If you would like to become a part of our fabulous Transportation Department contact 248-969-1888 to apply!

If this year has provided anything, it has given us ample opportunities to live out many of our Portrait of a Graduate characteristics in unexpected ways. Without a doubt, examples of being risk-takers, communicators, principled, balanced, caring, open-minded and reflective thinkers entered everyday life in the classrooms, planning meetings, and work spaces of every employee and student. With the uncertainty of the coronavirus spread from day-to-day, we have seen first-hand the importance of the safety protocols and how much abiding by them affects our ability to be face-to-face. Although we have seen a few periods of time where learning has had to shift from in-person to remote, our programs have been strong and consistently productive. It takes all of us to do our part to have such success and we are overwhelmingly proud of our staff, students, and families for what we have been able to accomplish together this year! As most other districts began working toward returning to full-time face-to-face learning near March, Oxford has been making it happen since August.

This year, celebrating 100 days of school felt very different from years past. Upon reaching this annual milestone, the sense of accomplishment was felt deeper than ever before. Each winter, our elementary teachers are creative with celebrating but this year our students creativity was extra special. Whether the classroom themes reflected feeling “lucky” to be in school, celebrating being “100 days smarter” or dressing up as if they were 100 years old, the joy and excitement was evident. Principal Bigelow shared, “Although this has been my most challenging year, it has also been one of my most rewarding.”
February is Black History Month and each year amazing lessons are taught in all of our classrooms on the lives, accomplishments, and impacts of incredible Black Americans. Students learn about individuals such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Ruby Bridges, John Lewis, Katherine Johnson, and Elijah McCoy and how they created change in our world. Our teachers guide students in reflecting on the successes of these great leaders and learn how to take their own passions and turn them into positive action. Black History is American History.

While Black History Month is celebrated nationally one month of the year, Oxford’s mission for ALL students to achieve their maximum potential is ongoing every day. To fulfill our mission, equity in education is vital. Equity is the freedom from bias, favoritism, or discrimination whether it be based on race, economic situation, gender, or special needs. The district continuously works to improve our climate and culture through studying the issue of equity. Last year a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee was formed to assess our systems and ensure that every child has an equal chance for success. This requires understanding the unique challenges and barriers faced by individual students and providing additional supports to help them overcome those barriers.

While this in itself may not ensure equal outcomes, we all should strive to ensure that every child has an equal opportunity for success. It may involve implementing appropriate and differentiated supports; ensuring that every member of the school district community has a voice, works together, and shares accountability for student success; setting high expectations for every child; and building on community strengths to create classrooms that are experientially relevant and culturally integrated. This winter the district surveyed students in grades 8-12, parents of students K-12, and our staff to gain valuable data on where our district can continue to grow to achieve equity and thus our educational mission. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee is studying the gathered data and will use it to assist in the preparation and action planning to continue on our journey in becoming the best we can be.

OVA teachers invited students to watch the film Ruby Bridges about the first African-American child to desegregate the all-white William Frantz Elementary School in Louisiana in 1960. After the film, the teachers hosted a comment, question, and answer session where students discussed what they learned about brave little Ruby. Teacher Melissa Clark shared, “I had the best day with our students! The kids brought beautiful thoughts to the discussion!”

Since our Fall 2020 Wildcat Review, ten Oxford athletes signed on to play at the collegiate level in their respective sports this winter. An official Winter signing day took place on April 6 at Wildcat Stadium before the varsity soccer game.
ATTENTION SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

Are you a Meemic Foundation Club Member yet? It’s Free! All school employees can register to join The Meemic Foundation Club for a fun and easy way to win BIG each month. Simply go to MeemicFoundation.org to register and learn more about great Meemic opportunities. Meemic opportunities are also listed on our district website at www.oxfordschools.org under the “For Staff” tab.

CONGRATULATIONS ON RETIREMENT!

Suzanne Joseph
22 years of service

Oxford Police deliver playground equipment

Oxford Meijer delivers coats

VFW delivers coats

Top district officials along with the school board restructured administrative roles slightly this winter. With the substantial growth of the Special Education Department in the last decade, along with the increase in health and safety needs, it was a prudent time to reassess roles and responsibilities. The Student Services Department tasks are now comprised of Pupil Accounting, Central Enrollment, Oxford International Program, Graduation Alliance, and Health/Safety including all COVID-19 protocols. Previous Director of Strategic Initiatives and Safety Operations Jill Lemond was appointed the Assistant Superintendent of Student Services in February. She has served the district for the past ten years in many of these areas and has recently played a crucial role in the safety protocol, procedures and communication for our staff and students to return and remain in classrooms during the pandemic.

The district has added the role of Executive Director of Special Education to lead the district’s 130 special education support staff and more than 700 special education students. Pamela Biehl has been appointed to the role of Executive Director of Special Education and will officially begin on July 1. She has served the district as a social worker for the past nine years and most recently as the Interim Director of Special Education since February. The department will now be housed within the Curriculum Department led by Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Ken Weaver and newly-appointed Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Instruction Anita Qonja-Collins.

Oxford Early Learning Center has been hard at work teaching and caring for district infants through Pre-K students this school year. They have also been busy applying for grants to help aid in their operating expenses as the majority of their costs are not state funded and have been affected by COVID. In total, since March of 2020 the Michigan Child Care Relief Fund has awarded OELC $304,000. This has been a welcome relief to help offset the costs that have been lost over the past calendar year. OELC has operated at two thirds of its capacity for the 2020-2021 school year because of COVID. The grant money has been spent on operational expenses, hazard pay for our incredible frontline staff, and reimbursements to families. As part of the grant requirements, OELC families who were in attendance during the month of September were issued a $200 credit per child to help compensate for times when a child has not been able to attend due to a COVID a situation such as needing to quarantine or if the child tested positive for COVID.

Thank you, Meijer, for your partnership in our community! We truly are so thankful to all of our local businesses and organizations who constantly support our district students and staff in so many ways.
IB RECERTIFICATION

Ten years ago, Oxford Elementary was the very first school in the district to become authorized as an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School. As it kicked off the district’s journey into its third series of building re-authorizations this March (each school must be re-authorized every three years), it is evident how much our district IB program has taken root and grown over the past decade. The process includes an application, evidence through pictures, videos, interviews with current and former parents, and meetings with central office staff of how we are implementing the IB programs throughout our curricula.

This year because of COVID-19 the process held a different look as everything was done virtually. Once again, OES passed with great accolades. The virtual evaluation garnered feedback from IB leaders such as, “You should be so proud!” There are less than 30 elementary schools in Michigan that are authorized IB schools- five of which are in Oxford. Oxford remains the only fully authorized school district in all of Michigan.

OHS RESTORATIVE PRACTICES ROOM

Our district adopted the Restorative Practices approach to discipline in 2017. Restorative Practices proactively build positive school relationships teaching students how to develop community, communicate to resolve conflict, repair harm done and restore relationships. When appropriate, associated discipline has meaningful consequences rather than simply assigning suspensions or expulsions. For example, at the high school level a student left their tray on the lunch table and walked away ignoring our lunch staff asking them to take care it properly. Instead of a detention, the student was assigned to clean lunch tables and discuss the harm caused by their choices, which resulted in the student understanding the negative results of their decisions and repairing the relationship with the staff member with a heartfelt apology.

Oxford High School has a Restorative Practices room where much of the emotional hurt done by students towards one another is corrected through restorative questioning led by Certified Restorative Practices Specialist, Pam Fine. This year, thanks to generous donations, the Restorative Practices room received a beautiful makeover with new furniture and comfortable seating for restorative circle conversations. This room also serves as a calming space. If a student is struggling, teachers may send the student to the Restorative Practices room to regroup and decompress. If they are unable to return to class after 15 minutes, students are then sent to the counseling department for additional support. The hope is for the room to be a place where students can take a minute to exhale, gather themselves and then return to class prepared to learn.

CROSSROADS GAINS A TEACHING KITCHEN

Oxford Crossroads Day School, located in the southeast end of the district, provides an alternative education experience for students in the juvenile justice system and students who have been suspended long-term or expelled from their resident district. Every day, Principal Guy Cococcetta and his staff pour their hearts, souls, and skills into helping guide and shape these students to achieve their potential and make positive contributions to our world. Recently, Guy went on a quest to find and re-purpose discarded kitchen appliances, cabinets, and a counter top to create a kitchen for his students. The goal of building the kitchen is to reward positive behaviors, motivate students to buy into the school behavioral modification program and excel. Most importantly, it will educate students on how to navigate a kitchen and create delicious and nutritious food while maintaining a clean and sterile environment. Cooking and cleaning are skills students will use for the rest of their lives. Students on the highest level of the behavior modification program are rewarded with special hot breakfasts every Monday and the chance to sign up for Cooking with CoCo lesson every Friday afternoon. According to Guy, “Cooking with CoCo” gives him the opportunity as their principal to do a cooking lesson but more importantly reinforce their good behaviors and get to know the students on a personal level. Established trust and rapport are key elements in the student growth process.
Kindness

CHARACTER COUNTS & KINDNESS MATTERS

So much has transpired in our world over the past year. It has challenged us in ways we never could have anticipated. What is evident through it all, is that character counts and kindness matters. Social-emotional wellness is something that has been a large focus in the classrooms. Without a focus on being kind to one another, living with integrity, and making a commitment to the wellbeing of others, our school year in Oxford would have looked far different than it has. The stress of the pandemic has worn on us all but we have been reminded often - one small act of kindness can change someone’s whole day for the better. Be inspired by some of our school community’s beautiful acts of kindness.

WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS

Melissa Rainwater-Rhoads a special education teacher consultant for the district recognized the need for a little extra special care this year. As part of her internship as she earns her K-12 administration degree she has created Wellness Wednesdays at Leonard Elementary to focus on Mental Health Awareness. Wellness Wednesdays occur once a month (February-April) and a week-long event in May. It promotes Mental Health Awareness by providing the staff and students with ideas for self-care and just a bit of change in routine. On March 17, students each received a bag of popcorn and story time via YouTube recorded by the Addison Library staff and projected in their classrooms while enjoying a delicious bag of popcorn and a fun bag of goodies from the Funky Monkey Toy Store, Oxford Bank and the Addison Township Library. Teachers began their day with a link to listen to an inspirational poem read by Maya Angelo, treats in the teacher’s lounge donated by 5-1 Diner and lovely gifts courtesy of the Apothecary & Co. in Oxford and the Because Ur Priceless Organic Tea and Spice Company in Lake Orion.

WILDCATS WORDS OF WISDOM

Mrs. Ribant’s second grade class at Daniel Axford read the story, Say Something by Peter H. Reynolds and were prompted with “Our words and thoughts MATTER in our world. If the whole world was listening, what would you want them to hear?” Below are some of their words of wisdom. Special photo credit goes to Mrs. Kylee Ribant for these photos as well as the front cover and our Wildcat words of wisdom social media posts. We are thankful she shares her photography.
Despite their already full and challenging schedules, the Oxford High School staff collectively sent each of its 1,530 students a valentine with a hand-written personalized note on the backside.

Lakeville students took action by caring through random acts of kindness throughout the month of February. By March, all of their accomplished ideas of kindness, written on heart sticky notes, created a huge heart. Proof that everyone doing small things can result in a big impact!

Oxford Elementary Student Council organized a school-wide food drive this winter. In a matter of two weeks, they collected 2,590 non-perishable food items to provide additional help to people in need in our community. All of the food was donated to Immanuel Congregational United Church of Christ.

We would like to thank our district parents and community members for the kind words and thoughtful tokens of appreciation they have gifted to our staff throughout this difficult year. Living in such a caring community is helping us all make our way through it. We just wanted to share some of the wonderful words our community has written with all of you. It has taken all of us working together to make this year successful:

“I am so proud of Oxford for all they do to keep our teachers and students safe. They are working extra time plus to do what they do. Know that you are all appreciated.” - Rosa Everitt, OES parent

“I would like to thank Oxford School District and every single teacher, bus driver, paraprofessional, administrator, substitute, environmental services, lunch ladies, office staff, and every single individual that I missed for making it possible for my children to get an education that I can feel good about. Thank you all so very much for getting up every single day and leaving your families and dealing with the same hardships we all face to come and teach ours. You are doing more for our children during these hard times than anyone is giving you credit for. You continue to improvise, adapt, grow, all while trying to improve…and it has not gone unnoticed. You are all doing an excellent job!” - Jamila Fox, Lakeville & OHS parent

“I just want to send a HUGE THANK YOU to the Oxford Schools and all the teachers, administrators and support staff. My son was a 2013 OHS grad so I have no ‘skin in the game’ for this crazy year, but I have lots of friends with school-aged kids around the state. I am so proud of this community for making every effort to keep kids IN the classrooms (safely) but still being able to successfully have virtual schooling for those that want need it. Good Job! Shining star for our Oxford Community!” - Cathy McGeen, parent of a graduate
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, Clear Lake Elementary third-graders finish a sentence explaining what being a caring communicator means to them.

“Being a CARING COMMUNICATOR is....”

...making eye contact.
Gabrielle Wernis

...someone who speaks to others nicely in different ways.”
Riley Smith

...a person who uses only nice words.”
Nora Myers

...shows kindness in body movements and talking.”
Ella Terry

...listens to other people.”
Macy O’Neill

...a person who speaks kindly.”
Kolyn Goidosik

...being kind, being caring, being thoughtful.”
Wyatt Sommers

...to learn to be respectful.”
Lilly DeGasperis

LEONARD READERS ARE HAPPY CAMPERS

March is Reading Month had some creative twists this year! Typically, book authors visit our schools to share their craft and guest readers of all sorts visit our students to help celebrate and encourage reading. This year, thanks to the pandemic, many activities took on a virtual look. Leonard Elementary School went with a fun camping theme, “Readers are Happy Campers!” The annual reading assembly was prerecorded and played for students in their classrooms to kick the month off. Camping themed activities were plenty with door decorating, flashlight reading, reading in tents and outside in the sunshine. Guest authors and readers visited students via zoom and the new addition of virtual bedtime stories read by special Leonard staff members were shared via YouTube links each Friday. Second graders even learned how to record their own story reading to share with younger Wildcats since they could not visit the classrooms to read to them in person. Leonard elementary ended the month with a bike give away. Students were able to put their name into a drawing each time they read a healthy living book for a chance to win one of two bikes. Such creative efforts by Leonard elementary staff for students who were thankful to enjoy all of March is Reading month this year.

CYBERSECURITY TEAMS PLACE TOP IN STATE

The Oxford Cybersecurity teams led by middle school CTE teacher Natalie Daversa had another fabulous season this year. The high school team comprised of Vincent Clark, Gavin Shafer and Wyatt Ashley placed third in the state. The middle school team members: Bryce Blizzard, Charles Caron, Cole Smillie, Graydy St. John earned second in the state. Three grueling competitions occurred on three Saturdays this winter, each lasted six hours in length. The students were tasked with finding vulnerabilities in images in Server 2019, Ubuntu 18, and Windows 10 in the Network Security Challenges. In the Cisco Networking Challenges students had to find vulnerabilities using packet tracers. Our Wildcats went on to compete with teams all across the country, and ranked in the top half of teams nationwide!
What Patriotism Means to Me
By Madolyne Winowski,
7th grade, Oxford Middle School

“Patriotism to me is not a simple definition that can be found in a textbook. It is a feeling, a belief, a value. The dictionary definition of patriotism means loyalty, devotion and a rigorous support for one’s country. It is so much more than a shout of the anthem. It is a belief, a respect for our government and all its institutions. Patriotism is expressed within our values and beliefs, our democracy and individual freedoms, similar to being a member in a family. School teaches us from early years about our flag, who we are as a nation, respect for our country, and what it means to be an American.

We are a nation founded under God as in our Pledge of Allegiance. We are grateful to our forefathers who fought for this country’s freedom. This is part of our patriotism – a feeling of pride, our way of life living within the framework of our Constitution. It is making sure our basic freedoms are always preserved and never taken away from us.

Patriotism unites all of us as a nation. It is a way of life. It represents our freedom, our ability to learn right from wrong, supporting our country, and not losing faith in what our country represents. Patriotism is evident in times when we come together in crises. Helping one another, those who have served, those who died sacrificing their lives to preserve our freedoms, those who continue to sacrifice and protect our country. I have family members both living and deceased who fought in WWII and the Vietnam War.

Patriotism is not just obeying our government, our flag or our National Anthem. It is having pride, love, respect and our way of life. My great-grandparents were of Polish descent and fought courageously in both wars against Communism and Nazi invasions. My grandparents and great grandparents were forcibly taken from their home in Poland to Siberia in Russia and survived. After the war and being displaced they had a choice to return to their homeland or seek other arrangements in other countries. They choose to come to America – land of hope, freedom and opportunity. They became citizens and taught our family love and respect for this country and its freedoms. In this great nation you can start with nothing. Just like my great-grandparents did and looked forward to the bright future.”

## WINTER ATHLETICS HIGHLIGHTS

The Winter sports season began with as much uncertainty as the fall season. It included many delays and cancellations as COVID-19 precautions and quarantines continued to pose threats to assemble for practice and games.

### BOWLING - GIRLS
- All-Conference First Team: Grace Meyer-Placing 5th in State
- All-State Academic Team: Grace Meyer, Lily Boothe, Olivia Gasparott

### BOWLING - BOYS
- OAA Red Division League Champions
- All-Conference First Team: Jason Paslean
- All-Conference Second Team: Collin Massie, Tommy Mace

### BASKETBALL - BOYS
- All-Conference First Team: Mason Mulholland

### BASKETBALL - GIRLS
- OAA Blue First Team: Mackenzie Methner, Emma Morris, Miranda Wyniemko
- OAA Blue Honorable Mention: Peyton Richter
- OAA Blue Coach of the Year: Oxford Girl's Basketball Staff
- Team Academic All-State: Overall 3.9 GPA

### COMPETITIVE CHEER
- All-Team Academic Honors
- Oxford was host to five competitions as well as the OAA Championship and MHSAA Division 1 District Finals
- *Post season OAA honors were not yet announced before printing

### HOCKEY
- OAA White Division League Champions
- All-State Second Team: Senior Cameron Paquette
- OAA All-League Honors: Jake Billis, Connor Vittetoe, and Ben Hepp

### SKI
- Boys finished second in the Mt. Holly Division
- Girls finished fourth in the Mt. Holly Division

### SWIM & DIVE - BOYS
- OAA All-League: Carson Wolf- 500 Freestyle, Ben Datsko- 100 Breaststroke
- Divers Liam Pearson placed 35th and Michael Funke placed 29th in D1 State Championships
- Carson Wolf set two new school records: 500 freestyle at 4:47.51; 200 Free at 1:43.72
- Ben Datsko set new 100 breaststroke school record of 58.82
- Relay team Nolan May, Zach Beatty, Ben Datsko, and Carson Wolf set two new school records: 400 Free Relay at 3:18.07; 200 Medley Relay at 1:38.37

### WRESTLING
- OAA Red Division League Champions
- Tate Myre & Koen Eberhard qualified for State competition
OHS THEATER PRESENTS LITTLE WOMEN

After a year of devastation to Arts programs across our country and around the world, Oxford High School is incredibly proud to present this year’s musical, LITTLE WOMEN. The show will hit the Oxford Fine Arts Center stage on May 13-15 (7:00 p.m.), and May 15-16 (2:00 p.m.). Due to socially distant restrictions for in-person viewing, tickets are extremely limited; for this reason, the only performance offering the free Oxford student tickets is Thursday’s show. For those unable to see the show in-person, there will be an On-Demand pre-recorded viewing option available for one year after the production. Both in-person and On-Demand tickets are $15 each and can be purchased online starting May 1. For more information, visit OHSmusical.com.

SCHOLASTIC ART AWARDS

The Scholastic Art awards have been in existence since 1923 and the pandemic has not halted this year’s competition. More than 5,000 pieces of art are entered each year by southwestern Michigan seventh through twelfth-graders from Oakland, Wayne, Washtenaw, Monroe, Livingston, and Lenawee counties. Six works of art by Oxford students won awards this year. Koi Edwards and Luke Farwell each had paintings that were awarded the highest honor, a Gold Key award, and both pieces went on to national competition.

Kate MacInnis submitted the piece “The Beauty of Empowerment” which previously won the Canvas Pontiac Outdoor Gallery Art Contest and a rendition is now displayed on a building in Pontiac. She shared that this piece shares a story of beauty, strength and a fight for equality. Koi shared his inspiration for his Chinatown printmaking piece stemmed from visiting with his cousin, “Every time I visit her we always go there and this time, we took pictures on this structure. Beyond the memories we have, my grandmother used to live in Chinatown when she was a kid so I wanted to explore different things connected to me and my family.”

DECA COMPETITIORS ADVANCE

The DECA team at OHS was very successful in the (virtual) DECA State Competition this March! Of our 44 Oxford participants, 33 earned finalist medals and 25 took first place in their respective categories. Those who earned first place state championships qualified for the (virtual) DECA International Competition.

State Champions
Skylar Beall
Raegan Bell
Jackson Billis
Trenton Brown
Bailey Brunning
Annah Burdua
Jenna Cappell

Mackenzie Carter
Nolan Cinato
Genevieve Dare
Torie Evans
Tony Hatzigeorgiou
Jordan Hung
Brady Lindamood
Meghan Lupu
Chasten Maier
Isabelle McCrum
Ryan Peruski
Baylee Proctor
Alexander Robb
Carleigh Rodriguez
Maya Roper
Jazmine Smith
Palmer Speck
Ava Torres

Kate Edwards- Painting, Oh I’m Sorry, Did I Make you Anxious: Gold Key Award
Luke Farwell- Painting, Hello Operator: Gold Key Award
Kate MacInnis- Painting, The Beauty of Empowerment: Honorable Mention
Luke Farwell- Drawing & Ill, Skater Boy: Honorable Mention
Alexander Lundy- Architecture & ID: Honorable Mention
Koi Edwards- Printmaking, Chinatown, Chicago: Honorable Mention

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ONCE A WILDCAT, ALWAYS A WILDCAT.

CATCHING UP WITH AN OXFORD ALUMNI...

In this edition, we caught up with 2014 graduate Kyle Reason. Since graduating from Oxford, Kyle went on to earn his B.A. in Exercise Science, M.S. in Clinical Exercise Physiology and is currently projected to earn his doctorate by spring of 2023. Kyle currently serves as a Teaching and Research Graduate Assistant in the Department of Kinesiology at the University of Northern Alabama. Here is his story and advice for our current Wildcats:

“My time spent in Oxford Schools helped shape me to be the person I am today. From the relationships, I developed with faculty and staff, to the friendships I made on and off the field. The experience I had during my time at Oxford was amazing! As a student, I felt like I mattered. I wasn’t just a number on a roster, but an actual person with a story. The teachers took time to get to know me and helped me in areas that I struggled. During my sophomore year at OHS, I had a major medical issue that required me to be hospitalized and miss a month of school, the astounding support I received from my teachers (some of which I didn’t even have at the time) and friends helped me recover and realize how lucky I was. As a Student-Athlete, I was involved in Leadership, Football, and Track and Field. All of these extracurricular activities helped develop my passion for helping others and the leadership skills that helped jump-start my career.

After graduating in 2014, I went on to get my Bachelors of Arts in Exercise Science at Hope College (Holland, MI) where I served as president of the student section, played football, ran track and field, and started a campus ministry for injured athletes. From there I attended Eastern Illinois University (Charleston, IL) for my Master’s in Clinical Exercise Physiology and became a Nationally Certified Exercise Physiologist through the American College of Sports Medicine. Upon graduation from EIU, I took a job as a clinical instructor at Valdosta State University (Valdosta, GA) where I also served as the head Exercise Physiologist for the Center for Exercise, Medicine, and Rehabilitation (CEMR). After a year of teaching and clinical work, I decided to go back to school and currently I am a full-time Ph.D. student at the University of North Alabama (Florence, AL) studying Exercise Science and Health Promotion.

My advice to all the Wildcats reading this is: Get involved in your school and community as much as possible. You will never regret helping out a neighbor, friend, or stranger because it may just be the thing they need to get ahead in life. Pour into each other and build strong lasting relationships.

A special thanks to Matt Johnson for everything you have done for me over the years, I would not be the person I am today without your guidance and mentorship. Fight on Wildcats fight, we are behind you all the way!”

ZACH TOWNSEND NAMED TOP COMPETITOR

Oxford senior Zach Townsend was recognized by the Detroit Free Press as one of 12 recipients of the 2021 Detroit High School Sports Award for boys soccer. The Free Press noted that while Zach was “the constant focus of attention for opposing defenses, Townsend still managed to produce nine goals and six assists; first-team all-state in Division 1.”

This award honors the top metro Detroit high school competitors in one of a dozen sports, and the metro Detroit recipients in each sport will be recognized in a July show ahead of regional and statewide events later in the summer associated with the USA Today High School Sports Awards.

OCS ARTS PERFORM VIRTUALLY

This winter, performing arts programs across the district took on the challenge to continue perfecting their skills even if they could not practice or perform together in person to be able to heed COVID-19 safety protocols. YouTube became the platform to share their hard work to parents and friends. The OMS Drama Club even found a virtual comedy “Dr. Evil and the Pigeons with Lasers” that was written to be able to perform as if it were on a zoom platform allowing the actual finished product to be streamed online for audiences.

CTE CLASS REDESIGNS TWP. SITE

Mrs. Monkevich’s CTE Principles of Web Design class at Oxford High School has volunteered to help create a new web presence for Oxford Township’s website. According to the Township the goal is to make it “more user-friendly, informative and aesthetically pleasing.” Oxford Township Supervisor Jack Curtis has been guiding the students on the needs of the Township for the site. Students have worked in and out of the classroom even meeting at the township hall to gather information and develop a plan. We look forward to seeing the completed work by our Wildcats!
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.

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