

# QUAKER PTO NEWS



## FROM THE DESK OF THE PTO PRESIDENT

### *Hello, OPHS!*



I hope you have enjoyed the back-to-school season as much as I have! The fall weather has just been outstanding. What a perfect homecoming for our kids! I am always amazed at just how great the homecoming weekend of festivities are in Orchard Park. OPHS is such a special place. The open house at the high school was well attended – We set up a PTO table, attracted some new members, and had a chance to say hello to many new and old friends that evening. Mr. Pafk kicked off the evening with an energetic welcome to all, and the teachers and staff made it a great and informative night. Students were there to help us navigate the hallways, which we were very appreciative of. (It really is such a big school!)

Thanks to all our members for joining our PTO! We are close to 170 parent members – we hope to make it to 200 this fall – If you have not joined, please take a moment to join us! It is easy and only \$5! The OPHS PTO has been hard at work – Many thanks to Denise Straifft and Karen Fuentes for helping at the New Student/Freshman Orientation – what a great night that was. Our Seniors made some amazing tie-dye shirts, thanks to our senior class assistants Brenda Cimo, Karen Laudico, and Pam Rauh for leading the efforts there, and to all the parents who kindly came out to help with the event.

Giant thank you's go out to everyone who baked or provided food for our Staff Welcome Back Breakfast – we had a ton of food and everything was so very appreciated by all at the high school. Thanks to our PTO Board and to Kelly Naab for helping to set up in the early morning hours.

Homecoming was perfect – Thanks to Tammy Vitko-Woods and Sarah Rera for handling Coat-Check and refreshments for us! I also want to thank all the people who have taken on PTO responsibilities this year for us – it is because of you that we are able to help make OPHS a first-class place to be. I am so proud of the good work our PTO does here!

Come out and join us on Oct 30th – Post Prom Meeting is at 6pm and PTO meeting is at 7pm. We would love to see you!

Tracy Brege  
OPHS PTO President

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*Welcome from PTO President*

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### *SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST*

- *It's never too late to join the PTO!*
- *Open 2023-2024 PTO Positions*



IMPORTANT!

## College Counseling Information

- The High School Counseling department met with the Junior and Senior classes the first week of school for the Fall College Assembly. A plethora of information related to the **college planning process** including SATs, recommendations, athletics, applications, financial aid, SCOIR, and much more was discussed.
- The Eastman School of Music, in collaboration with The Juilliard School and Ithaca College will co-host the Upstate New York Music College Fair on Monday, October 16th. Please visit the [Eastman](#) website for details and registration information.
- The Western New York Collegiate Consortium of Disability Advocates will be hosting a college night for students with disabilities interested in learning about the transition from high school to college. The event will take place at Daemen University on *October 17th, 2023*. Colleges and agencies that support this transition across the state will present valuable information. Please visit the [WNYCCDA](#) website for details and registration information.
- **The OP Pride application is due November 1st!** Any interested seniors should apply! The application is available on the [School Counseling page](#) of the high school website.
- OPHS is a test center for the October ACT, November SAT, May SAT, and June ACT. Please visit the [ACT](#) and [SAT](#) websites for details and registration information.
- During the months of September and October, the High School Counselors met with seniors for their Senior Check-In to discuss post high school plans. Options including college, trades, military, and employment were discussed.
- The High School Counseling department hosts a Google Classroom for each grade level. *Ask your child to login and check out the latest announcements.*
- **Check out the [School Counseling page](#) of the high school website. It includes a variety of resources for students and parents.**
- The Scott Krueger Memorial Scholarship application will be available the week of October 9th. Each year, two OPHS seniors are chosen to receive a \$10,000 annual scholarship valued at \$40,000 over four years. Applicants must have a GPA of 90% or above, have 4 credits of math and science, and have participated in at least one season of athletics at OPHS. Additional information and the application are available on the Scholarships-Class of 2024 Google Classroom. All seniors have access to this classroom

# OPHS PTO



## **Dear High School Parents:**

*Welcome, or Welcome Back!*

We hope that you had an enjoyable summer and that you are excited that your child is back at school. The OPHS PTO is looking forward to supporting the students, teachers, staff, and families and returning to our schedule of events and activities for the year! Towards this end, we hope that you will consider getting Involved. Here are a few ways to do that:



### **Join the PTO!**

Membership is only \$5 and can be done quickly and easily online, through Membership Toolkit. Instructions for joining online can be found in this newsletter. Emails related to PTO-sponsored events, activities, and other volunteer opportunities are sent to members through Membership Toolkit website, and members have access to the online directory of PTO member families. You can choose to volunteer IF you wish to!

Never any pressure...we really just appreciate your membership!

### **Join the Orchard Park High School PTO Facebook Page**



We use the page to keep parents informed about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities, and we share other information important for high school parents. The page can be found here:

or by searching "Orchard Park High School PTO" on Facebook.

### **PTO Meetings**

We meet in the LMC (Library) in the back room. It is located on the 2nd floor across from the House 2 office. A list of meeting dates is included in this newsletter. We meet on the last Monday of the month, however, due to holidays, we may need to adjust.

*We do not meet in December.*



### **PTO Newsletter**

Stay informed! The monthly PTO Newsletter is available on the OPHS website. Click on "Parent Resources" and then "PTO". The newsletter contains information about events at the high school, requests for volunteers, and important information about various department events and activities. An email is sent out when the newsletter is posted.

### **Volunteer**

As volunteer opportunities become available throughout the year, they will be communicated through the PTO newsletter, emails, and Facebook page.

*We hope you have had a wonderful start to the school year!*

Tracy Brege, President  
[tracybrege@verizon.net](mailto:tracybrege@verizon.net)

Donna Aylsworth, Vice President  
[donna.aylsworth@verizon.net](mailto:donna.aylsworth@verizon.net)

Nicole Avitahl-Curtis, Secretary  
[NAvitahl-Curtis@outlook.com](mailto:NAvitahl-Curtis@outlook.com)

Karen Fuentes, Treasurer  
[karen.fuentes8888@att.net](mailto:karen.fuentes8888@att.net)

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# PTO MEETING

## PTO Meeting Dates 2023 -2024

Note: Meetings will take place In-person In the LMC Library on the 2nd floor of the high school.  
Please join the PTO via the Membership Toolkit website to ensure the emails are sent tot you!

*Post Prom meetings will be held at 6pm before each meeting except where otherwise noted.*

**\*\*Monday, September 25, 2023 – 6PM**

Monday, October 30, 2023 – 7PM

Monday, November 27, 2023 – 7PM

Monday, January 29, 2024 – 7PM

Monday February 26, 2024 – 7PM

Monday, March 25, 2024 – 7PM

Monday, April 29, 2024 – 7PM

**\*\*Monday, May 20, 2024 – 6PM (Post Prom Meeting at 7PM)**

**\*\* Please note time change from standard meeting schedule**



**Please Click the OP logo  
above to view our  
OP High School Calendar of  
Events & important dates!**

## PTO Volunteer Opportunity



The OPHS PTO is looking for a volunteer to chair the staff appreciation lunch! Ask a few friends, & you can chair the event together! No experience necessary!  
Contact Jen Domzalski, Nomination Chair, at [jmdomzalski@hotmail.com](mailto:jmdomzalski@hotmail.com) if you are interested!



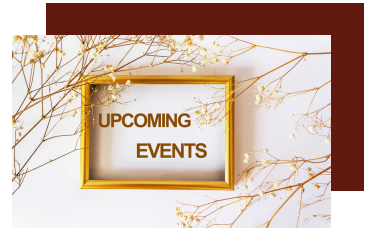
## PTO Newsletter Submissions

Anyone wishing to submit information for the newsletter should email [ophspto@gmail.com](mailto:ophspto@gmail.com) by the 1st day of the month.

If this falls on a weekend, please be sure to get your entries in before then!  
Preferred document formats are Microsoft Word, .jpeg images, and PDFs.  
If you'd like us to format your information for you, just send the text and let us know to format.

**Thank you!**





## PTO Event Dates OPHS 2023 - 2024

Monday	Oct 30	Post Prom Meeting	6pm
Monday	Oct 30	PTO Meeting	7pm
Monday	Nov 27	Post Prom Meeting	6pm
Monday	Nov 27	PTO Meeting	7pm
Friday	Jan 26	Staff Appreciation Lunch	All Day
Monday	Jan 29	Post Prom Meeting	6pm
Monday	Jan 29	PTO Meeting	7pm
Saturday	Feb 3	Winter Homecoming	7:00pm
Monday	Feb 26	Post Prom Meeting	6pm
Monday	Feb 26	PTO Meeting	7pm
Monday	Mar 25	Post Prom Meeting	6pm
Monday	Mar 25	PTO Meeting	7pm
Thursday	April 11	Tri-M Music Reception	7pm
Thursday	April 18	World Language Honor	7pm
Monday	April 29	Post Prom Meeting	6pm
Monday	April 29	PTO	7pm
Friday	May 10	NHS Reception	7pm
Monday	May 20	PTO Meeting	6pm**
Monday	May 20	Post Prom Meeting	7pm**
Wednesday	May 22	Underclass awards	7pm
Friday	May 31	Senior Picnic	
Saturday	June 1	Post Prom	Late night

\*\* Please note time change from standard meeting schedule to avoid STAP-COMM conflict

# POST PROM



## **The Post Prom Party Is the largest PTO event of the year.**

It will be held on June 1, 2024 immediately following prom. The Post Prom Party is a *safe*, alcohol-free event for OPHS Seniors and their prom dates. Seniors do NOT need to attend Prom in order to attend the Post Prom Party.

In past years, almost 400 students have attended the Post Prom Party. The students enjoy entertainment, refreshments, and prizes.

In 2023, the PTO gave away more than \$10,000 In prizes and more than \$2000 In cash, with one lucky senior winning the Grand Prize of \$2023!

The success of Post Prom depends upon the generosity of parents, community members, and local businesses In making monetary and prize donations. The fundraising campaign begins **NOW!**

**Please consider making a donation and/or signing up to serve on the Post Prom Committee.**

Donors are recognized In the monthly PTO newsletter, and your donation Is tax deductible.

## *DONATE*

Donations of any amount are gratefully accepted. Suggested donation levels are:

\$20.24	2024 Club (2025-2027 Clubs also available)
\$50.00	Principal's Club
\$100.00	Superintendent's Club
\$150.00	Community Sponsor
\$250.00	Activity Sponsor

You can make a donation online through your Membership Toolkit account or you can mail it to:

OPHS Attn: Post Prom  
4040 Baker Road  
Orchard Park, NY 14127

You can sign up to become a member of the Post Prom Committee through your membership Toolkit Account.

**The first Post Prom Committee meeting will be held Monday, October 30, 2023 at 6:00PM.**

# OPHS Post Prom Donations

Thank you

## \$20.24 Club

Peggy Tronolone  
Robin Heer  
Juliette Reashor  
Katherine Mellown  
Tammy Vitko-Woods  
Nicole Avitahl-Curtis  
Julie Murphy  
Sheila Eagan  
Pamela Rauh  
Jill Spitz  
Mike Rozic  
Laura Bosinski  
Kelly Connors  
Monica Blake  
Lisa Henrich  
Tamara Papke  
Erin Homer  
Lisa Gioia  
Tara Rains  
Christine Cleary  
Alexandra Passarell  
Michelle Bouton  
Tara Campise  
Shannon Fisher  
Suzanne Houlihan  
Sharon Azurin

## Superintendent's Club

Deanna McDonald  
Tammy Vitko-Woods  
Valerie Venturo  
Lisa Esler-Brauer  
Christina & Nestor  
Hernandez  
Barbra Lesh

## Principal's Club

Erica Patterson  
Lisa Renn  
Kristin Dudish  
Kristen Casto  
Tara Campise

## General Donations

Valerie Velasquez  
Jennifer Sippel

## \$20.25 Club

Keiko Papaj  
Nicole Avitahl-Curtis  
Jill Pawlowski  
Danielle Schwanekamp  
Nancy DeBroka  
Jennifer Coyle  
Jennifer Breitwieser

## \$20.26 Club

Jill Pawlowski  
Erin Homer  
Jennifer Breitwiesen  
Shannon Dommer

## \$20.27 Club

Tammy Vitko-Woods  
Sarah Rera  
Kimesha Northway  
Theodore Wadeline  
Rebecca Jubulis  
Anne Dintino  
Kerry Steinagle  
Lisa Hanna  
Cristi Oczek

\*List current through October 9th, 2023

# Senior Tie Dye

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Senior Tie Dye Day was a true success this year! The shirts came out great, and it was nice to see the Seniors excited for their big year.

The day could not have been a success without the help of the Senior Class advisors, Mrs. Rodemeyer and Mrs. Connors. A big thank you goes out to all of our great parent volunteers as well. Thank you to the following parents for all their help:

Pamela Rauh, Brenda Cimo, & Karen Laudico, Chairs



*Excited Seniors on their first day back in their tie dye!!*

Francine Powers  
Linda Gernold  
Renata Doerr  
Jaclyn Robison  
Donna Aylsworth  
Brenda Cimo  
Carolyn Salgado  
Susanne Kelley  
Jamie Davis  
Ann Fischer  
Erin Homer

Jennifer McCrone  
Stephanie Bruzgul  
Juliette Reashor  
Ian Woods  
Pamela Rauh  
Cyndy Nichols  
Lisa Renn  
April Dunlap  
Alexandra Passarell  
Barbra Lesh  
Peggy Tronolone

Debbie Kassirer  
Mark Szczepanik  
Katherine Mellown  
Chris Popek  
Karen Laudico  
Lori Ramsey  
Christine Kellogg  
Jen Repp  
Kate Passarell  
Ian Woods





## OPHS Homecoming 2023

Thank you to everyone who volunteered at Homecoming 2023 coat check and refreshments. You made the night extra special for the students because they had a safe place to store their belongings, and beverages to keep them hydrated. To our parents of seniors, your service to our school will be greatly missed. For our parents of freshmen, we hope you enjoyed your first experience volunteering at homecoming. We hope to see our freshmen, sophomore, and junior parent volunteers again next year.

Sarah Rera (coat check chairperson) and Tammy Vitko-Woods (refreshment chairperson) would like to thank the following outstanding volunteers for giving up part of their Saturday night to help at the high school dance:

Adam and Stacy Bigelow  
Bushra Iqbal  
Susanne Kelley  
Nancy DeBroka  
Jenn Repp  
Jamie Davis  
Rachael O'Connor  
Donna Leigh  
Kellie Crane  
Jody Magner  
Nicole and Rory Curtis  
Chris Popek  
Carol K.  
Andy K.  
Catie Jones

Anne Malek  
Karen Fuentes  
Erin Brackenridge  
Lynn Morgan  
Pam Rozic  
Ian Woods  
Robby Dinero  
Danielle and Tim Lango  
Lisa Taips  
Leslie Rakowski  
Tara Campise  
Erin Homer  
Andy Kaminski  
Stefanie Pagano  
Pamela Rauh



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# DRIVER EDUCATION

Check the district website in November for information on the Winter/Spring session of Driver Education.



## 5-HOUR PRE-LICENSING COURSE

5-Hour Pre-Licensing Courses will be held on the following dates in Room 115 at the Orchard Park High School:

Monday & Wednesday, October 16 & 18, 2023 6:30–9:00pm  
Monday & Wednesday, December 4 & 6, 2023 6:30–9:00pm

You must attend **both** sessions and be 16 or older and have a valid NYS Learner's Permit. There is a \$40.00 fee.

Sign up and pay online on the district website under [www.opschools.org/communityed](http://www.opschools.org/communityed), or register in person at the Community Education Office (cash or make checks payable to Orchard Park Central School District).  
Call 209-6295 for more information.

## OPHS PTO Facebook Page Information

***Please join the OPHS PTO Facebook page!***

It's a convenient way to find out what's going on at the High School, stay informed about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities and stay updated on other information important for high school parents.

To join, go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1396662093956394/>

or enter "Orchard Park High School PTO" in the search box on Facebook.

***\*\* Please be sure to answer the "membership questions" prior to submitting your request to join the page! \*\****





OPHS STAP Comm is kicking off its annual Roswell Adopt-a-Family program to help provide a special holiday for a family affected by cancer. A **gift card** and **monetary donation** collection will run from **November 1st-17th**; please consider donating to this important cause!

Below is a flyer outlining the sought-after gift cards.  
Thank you in advance for your generosity!!



DEAR ORCHARD PARK COMMUNITY,

OPHS STAP COMM IS CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF "ADOPTING" A FAMILY AFFLICTED BY CANCER AND PROVIDING THEM WITH A SAFE AND MEMORABLE CHRISTMAS. THIS YEAR WE HAVE A FAMILY OF 6 TO HELP!

WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO ANY CLUBS, TEAMS, HOMEROOMS, OR INDIVIDUALS WHO WOULD LIKE TO MAKE MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS OR BY PURCHASING GIFT CARDS AS WE WORK TO PROVIDE A MERRY CHRISTMAS FOR THIS FAMILY. WE ARE LOOKING FOR GIFT CARD DONATIONS FROM THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: WEGMANS, TOPS, WALMART, TARGET, AMAZON, ULTA, KOHL'S, ALDI, SUNOCO, FIVE BELOW, HOME DEPOT, FAMILY DOLLAR, BATH & BODY WORKS, & RESTAURANTS – VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS ARE APPRECIATED.

WE ASK THAT ALL GIFT CARD DONATIONS (DROP OFF AT ANY HOUSE OFFICE OR RM 163) BE RECEIVED BY **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH**. PLEASE CONTACT:



ANNIE HENRICH/REESE POLITOWSKI (HR 163) OR  
MR. BOVE (ABOVE@OPSCHOOLS.ORG) WITH ANY QUESTIONS!

**THANK YOU!**





# Quaker Athletics Booster Club Membership Form

The Quaker Athletics Booster Club is a group of parent volunteers that work to support the athletes of the Orchard Park School District. QABC raises money to help provide equipment, training, officials, etc. that is not covered in the athletic budget. We are always looking for new volunteers to grow our group. The more people we have, the more we can do. If you would like more information or want to get involved, please contact Tim Fischer (President) at [Timmyfish8@yahoo.com](mailto:Timmyfish8@yahoo.com).

Scan our QR to visit our website, register, and pay online for membership.

[www.quakerboosters.com](http://www.quakerboosters.com).

Like us on Facebook: Quaker Athletics Booster Club & follow us on Twitter  
@OPBoosterClub

----- PLEASE CUT HERE -----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to add my name to your volunteer list. \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

SPORT(s) involved in: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Levels: White \$25.00

Maroon \$50.00

Silver \$100.00

Platinum \$200.00

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable to : QUAKER ATHLETICS BOOSTER CLUB

OPHS Main Office

4040 Baker Road

Orchard Park, NY 14127





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# OPHS PTO Membership

Instructions to Join Using Membership Toolkit Online



The PTO Membership Toolkit again for our communications, online store, online membership, **volunteer signups** and directory.

If you do not have a Membership Toolkit account from previous years, please follow steps #1-#11 to create an account and join the PTO.

OR

If you already have a Membership Toolkit Account, please LOG IN and follow steps #7-#11 below (You may omit steps #1-#6.)



## Creating a Membership Toolkit

1. Go to <https://orchardparkhspto.membershiptoolkit.com>
  2. Click "Register/Login" button
  3. "Create Account" button on right side underneath "New User?"
  4. Provide first & last name, email, create password, click "Verify MyEmail"
  5. Go to email and "Verify My Email"
  6. Enter password on verification screen and click "Create Account"
  7. Click on "Step 1: Family Information"
    - Provide/Confirm requested Information
    - "Next Step"
  8. Proceed to "Student Information"
    - Click "Add Student" to enter your first OPHS child's name and grade.
    - Do NOT enter Classroom Teacher
    - Click "I have another student" to add additional OPHS children to your profile. **Click "Save"**.
  9. Click on "Step 2: Directory Publish Preferences"
    - You can choose which Information to share in the directory by unchecking boxes. **Click "Save"**.
  10. Click on PTO Membership 2023-2024" under "Store & Data (Information) Forms to complete your membership.
    - Click the "down" arrow to the far right of the "Membership for Families" section and select the number "1"
    - If you choose to make an **optional donation to the PTO**, please enter donation amount under "**General Fund Donation**". Add to cart and checkout.
    - If you choose to make an **optional donation to the Post Prom Party**, you will have the option to do so on the Checkout screen.
      - You will receive a message that says: "Note: You have not completed the following optional forms. You should consider reviewing before completing your transaction: Post Prom Donation 2023-2024"
      - Click the link that says "Click Here" to view multiple donation options
      - You may either select a predetermined amount, or make a donation of your own choosing. Add to cart.
      - Proceed to Checkout
- For any store purchase, you can pay online through your PayPal account or using credit or debit card or mail a check or cash to "OPHS PTO, 4040 Baker Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127."