

QUAKER NEWS



FROM THE DESK OF MR. WOLF:

Welcome Back!

As I write this message, we are completing our fourth day of school and the second day for cohort B students. I am pleased to say that our staff and students have responded very well to all of the new COVID protocols. While it is not a normal start to the school year, we all are committed to taking the steps necessary to ensure safety and hopefully be as in-person as possible. Some students have commented about how they actually appreciate the smaller class sizes and reduced congestion in the hallways. It is important that, as we progress deeper into the school year, we remain vigilant in adhering to the protocols in order to keep everyone healthy.

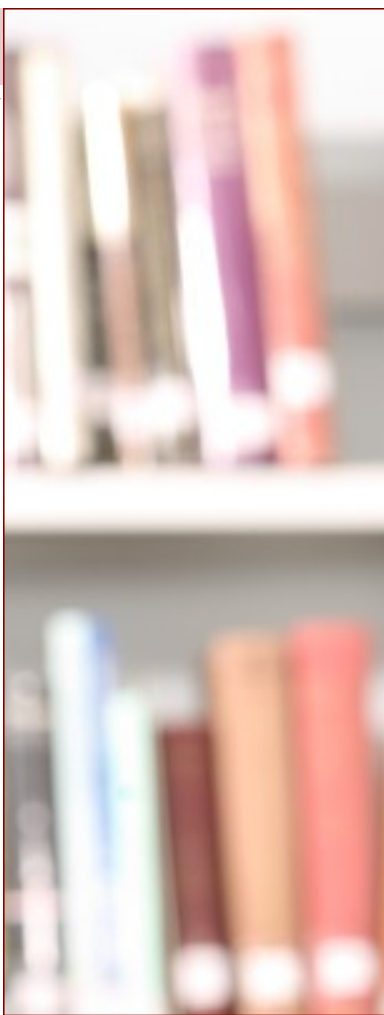
I appreciate the cooperation of our parents in adhering to the drop-off and pick up protocols as well. I realize that there has been some congestion and delays at times. We will continue to refine that process as the transportation department gets more familiar with routes and traffic flow.

As you know many of our traditional activities and events are on pause until we can gather again in large groups. As a school community, we are committed to providing as comprehensive of an educational experience as possible during these unique times. We will continue to reimagine ways to reschedule and accomplish things we are accustomed to enjoying. Homecoming is something that we are working through. At this point, we are considering shifting these events into the spring season since they cannot happen this fall. Additionally, information about the plan for a virtual Open House will be finalized soon as well.

As a society, we have all been forced to adapt and change in ways we never thought possible. I am proud of the way the entire OPHS community has come together in achieving a smooth start to the school year. I appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we continue to move forward and hopefully get back to a more "normal" world.

Go Quakers!

Mr. Jonathan Wolf, OPHS Principal



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Support your students via the PTO and music boosters!



OPSCD Transportation Announcement:

We will be making changes to bus routes, including locations, route numbers, and times for the next couple of weeks. Please check for any changes on the [Parent Portal](#) before calling the Transportation office. Changes update overnight. Thank you for your patience!

Newsletter Submissions:

Anyone wishing to submit info for the newsletter should email: 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 or images (jpg, png, etc). PDF documents are difficult to incorporate, but we can. If you'd like us to format your info for you, just send the text and let us know to format. Thank you!

OPHS CALENDAR

- 9/15-9/18 Student ID and Underclassman Photos
- 9/15 Board of Education Meeting—7pm
- 9/17 Parent Info Series (online): Coronavirus Stress—7pm
- 9/22 Senior Picture Retakes
- 9/28 Virtual PTO Meeting—7pm
- 10/2 Early dismissal drill (dismissed 15 minutes early)
- 10/8 Parent Info Series (online): Anti-Racist Tools—7pm
- 10/12 Columbus Day (no school)
- 10/13 Board of Education Meeting—7pm
- 10/26 Virtual Post Prom Meeting—6:15pm
Virtual PTO Meeting—7pm
- 11/11 Veteran's Day (no school)
- 11/16 Early Dismissal—12:45pm
- 11/17 Board of Education Meeting—7pm
- 11/23 Virtual Post Prom Meeting—6:15pm
Virtual PTO Meeting—7pm
- 11/25—11/27 Thanksgiving Holiday (no school)

PTO News & Information



PTO MEETINGS 2020-21

All PTO meetings are held virtually at 7pm unless otherwise noted.

9/28	2/22
10/26	3/29
11/23	4/26
1/25	5/24

POST PROM PLANNING

The post prom committee works all year to plan for this event and we need help! All parents are welcome but especially junior and senior parents. **Join us, virtually, before every PTO meeting at 6:15pm beginning in October. The meeting link will be posted on the district website on the PTO page <https://opschools.org> and on the OPHS PTO Facebook page.**

"Many hands make light work"
John Heywood

A SPECIAL PTO WELCOME TO PARENTS NEW TO OPHS!

The PTO extends a warm welcome to those of you new to OPHS! Please consider joining the PTO - it's a great way to gain access to lots of important information and there's never an obligation to volunteer (although you'll be given lots of opportunities to do so throughout the school year). The \$5 membership fee funds our annual budget without the need for fundraising so we won't ask you to sell or buy anything.

If you ever have any questions, the PTO Board contact information is contained on page 8 of this newsletter. Please reach out because we are happy to help!

YOU'RE "VIRTUALLY" INVITED!

The PTO invites everyone to virtually attend our PTO meetings. The meeting links will be posted on the school website and on the OPHS PTO Facebook page. These meetings are a great venue for having open discussions, exchanging ideas, and asking questions. Check out this year's meeting schedule on the left side of this page.

Click the OP logo to get to our section of the HS website



Click the Facebook logo to get to our group



OPHS PTO Membership: Instructions to Join Using Membership Toolkit Online



Membership dues for the 2020 - 2021 school year are just \$5.00 per family.

The PTO will be using 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)



To create a Membership Toolkit account:

1. Go to <https://orchardparkhspto.membershiptoolkit.com/>
2. Click the "Register / Log In" button
3. Click the "Create Account" button on the right side of the page underneath "New User?"
4. Provide your first and last name, email address, create a password and click the "Verify My Email" button
5. Go to your email and click the "Verify My Email" button
6. Enter your password where indicated on the verification screen and click the "Create Account" button

To join PTO:

7. Click on "Step 1: Family Information"
 - Provide or confirm the requested information.
 - Click the "Next Step" button.

Note: if you indicate that you want the second parent to be able to manage the account, they will receive an email and will have to accept your invitation to do so. They will need to create their own account.

8. Proceed to "Student Information"
 - Click "Add Student" to enter your first OPHS child's name and grade.
 - Do not enter Classroom Teacher.
 - If needed, click "I have another student" to add additional OPHS children to your profile.
 - When all HS children have been entered, **click the "Save" button in the lower right side of the page.**

9. Click on "Step 2: Directory Publish Preferences"
 - You can also choose which information you would like shared in the directory by unchecking any boxes containing information you wish to keep private.
 - **Click the "Save" button in the lower right side of the page** to save your preferences.

10. Click on "PTO Membership 2020-2021" 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 your donation amount in the box to the right of the "Donation of your choosing" under "**General Fund Donation.**"
 - Click "**Add to cart and checkout**"
 - If you choose to make an **optional donation to Post Prom**, you will have the option to do so on the "Checkout" screen.
 - You will receive a message that states, "*Note: You have not completed the following optional forms. You should consider reviewing them before completing your transaction: Post Prom Donation 2020-2021*"
 - Click the link that says, "click here." This will take you to a page with multiple donation options
 - If you choose a predetermined amount, select the drop down box under "Qty" and make your selection
 - If you make a donation of your choosing, please scroll to the bottom and enter the amount of your gift next to "Post Prom General Donation."
 - Click "Add to cart"
 - Click "Proceed to Checkout"
 - For any store purchase, you can pay online through your PayPal account or using a credit or debit card or mail a check or cash to "OPHS PTO, 4040 Baker Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127."

** Volunteer opportunities will be posted through the Membership Toolkit as they become available.



Families will be notified if in-school volunteer opportunities become available later in the school year.

Calling all bakers or anyone willing to brave the bakery department at the grocery store!

There are many events held at OPHS throughout the year and the PTO often organizes refreshments. Please consider volunteering either your baking skills to whip up treats for one or more of these events, or if baking isn't your thing, donate store-bought goodies instead! Use [Membership Toolkit](#) to sign up and we'll contact you as needed or check out our [Facebook group](#) for imminent needs.



Post Prom Party

The Post Prom Party will be held on June 5, 2021 after Prom. Planning and fundraising starts NOW! Please consider virtually attending our first meeting on October 26th at 6:15 p.m. We will be forming committees such as fundraising, decorating, prizes, entertainment, and refreshments. You do not need to have a senior student to attend or be involved!



A HUGE thank you to Pam Rauh and Karen Laudico, this year's Senior Class Assistants, for doing a great job with the Senior Tie Dye! Also, thank you to Ms. Rodemeyer and Ms. Henault, Senior Class Advisors, who planned this event, provided all supplies and guided parent volunteers. They've got T-shirt tie-dyeing down to a science!

Thank you also to the following parent volunteers that helped make this day possible:

Kim Kamis	Karen Hansen	Carolyn Nicometo
Jennifer Smith	Suzanne Curtain	Lynn Calpin
Mary Gorczynski	Susan Gianiodis	Mindee Mutty
Holly Nelson	Cathy Schrantz	Lisa Hanna
Ann Marie Klosko	Alex Passarell	Bridget Senfield
Yalitza Aguila	Jen Sippel	Jill Edwards-Tills
Nancy Hartung	Eileen Riter	Stacy Rominger
Joe Adamec	Jeanette Smith	Jessica Thomas
Julie Kjellstrom	Maria Guzzo	Molly Kruszka
Eileen Reilly	Niki Addeo	Michelle Bouton
Brian Himes	Joe McCrone	Lisa Breth
Russ Kamis	Chris Betrus	Jeff Weiss
Joe Henault	Gary Janas	

OPHS PTO Positions/Chairpersons 2020 - 2021

ALL PTO EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES, AS WELL AS PTO AND VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES, ARE CURRENTLY ON "HOLD" UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE AS A RESULT OF THE PANDEMIC. THE PTO WILL COMMUNICATE ANY CHANGES TO THIS POLICY TO FAMILIES AS THE SITUATION EVOLVES AND FURTHER GUIDANCE IS RECEIVED FROM THE DISTRICT.

Position	Name	Contact Information
President	Caren Chaffee	chaffeecaren@gmail.com 716-812-7139
Vice President	Donna Aylsworth	donna.aylsworth@verizon.net 716-866-8295
Treasurer	Tracy Brege	tracybrege@verizon.net 716-472-9496
Secretary	Colleen Nielson	colleen@cdnielson.com 716-866-4595
Newsletter Editor	Tara Rains	tara.rains@hotmail.com
Freshmen Orientation	PTO Board	chaffeecaren@gmail.com
Bagel Breakfast	PTO Board	chaffeecaren@gmail.com
Fall Homecoming Refreshments	Barb Dojnik	bdojnik@wilmingtontrust.com
Fall Homecoming Coat Check	Cyndy Nichols Colleen Nielsen	nicholscyndy@gmail.com colleen@cdnielsen.com
Staff Appreciation Lunch	Holly Nelson Sheri Carter	hollynelson413@gmail.com
Winter Homecoming Refreshments	Barb Dojnik	bdojnik@wilmingtontrust.com
Winter Homecoming Coat Check	Cyndy Nichols Colleen Nielsen	nicholscyndy@gmail.com colleen@cdnielsen.com
World Language Induction Ceremony Reception	Patricia Manning	pmanning@earthlink.net
National Honor Society Reception	Cyndy Nichols Colleen Nielsen	nicholscyndy@gmail.com colleen@cdnielsen.com
Underclass Award Reception	Holly Nelson	hollynelson413@gmail.com
Post Prom Coordinator	Natalie Lesh	natalielesh2.0@gmail.com
BET Reps	1. Kim Kamis 2. Donna Aylsworth	kimkamis1@yahoo.com donna.aylsworth@verizon.net
ILC Reps	1. Laura Kelly 2. Elizabeth Duckham	latjkelly@gmail.com educkham@gmail.com
STAP-COMM Reps	1. Pam Rauh 2. Michelle Bouton 3. Elizabeth Duckham 4. Donna Aylsworth	pamelamrauh@gmail.com mlbouton@gmail.com educkham@gmail.com donna.aylsworth@verizon.net
Senior Class Assistants	1. Pam Rauh 2. Karen Laudico	pamelamrauh@gmail.com tlaudico@hotmail.com
Teacher Rep	Brett Norvilitis	bnorvilitis@opschools.org
Nominating Chair	Kim Schmelzinger	Kms5k@aol.com

2020 – 2021 OPHS PTO POST PROM INFORMATION



The Post Prom Party is the largest PTO event of the year and will (hopefully!) be held on June 5, 2021 immediately following Prom. The Post Prom Party is a safe, alcohol-free event for OP Seniors and their Prom dates. OP Seniors do NOT need to attend Prom in order to attend the Post Prom Party.

In 2019, almost 400 students attended the Post Prom Party. The students enjoyed entertainment, refreshments, and prizes. The PTO gave away more than \$3000 in prizes and more than \$4000 in cash, with one lucky senior winning the grand prize of \$2019. In 2020, Post Prom went virtual due to the pandemic and 100% of the funds raised were for cash and prize giveaways, including the grand prize of \$2020.

The Post Prom Committee will prepare for both a live event and a virtual one this year. The success of either 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.

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

\$ 20.21	2021 Club (2022, 2023, and 2024 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, New York 14127

You can also sign up to become a member of the Post Prom Committee through your Membership Toolkit account, or you can email Natalie Lesh at natalielesh2.0@gmail.com.

The first **Post Prom Committee** meeting will be held on **October 26, 2020 at 6:15 pm** via Zoom. The link will be posted on the district website and on the OPHS PTO Facebook page prior to the meeting.



Orchard Park Music Boosters

It's time to join!!!

Who are we?

An organization devoted to enhancing and supporting Music Programs across the Orchard Park School District: including band, orchestra, chorus, and other K-12 music programs.

Who does this program benefit?

Everyone! Orchard Park Music Boosters benefits all students involved in a music program within the school district.

Why does it matter?

The O.P. Music Boosters have initiated and assisted in numerous musical projects, including partnerships with the O.P. School District, PTO, and Alumni Association to:

- Help purchase **audio equipment and music rights** to enrich operettas, plays, musicals, and other performances.
- Help purchase **new instruments** in conjunction with the school district.
- Annually funded several **student workshops** with guest artists and conductors.
- Award **music scholarships** to students pursuing the field of music in college, as well as, students not majoring in music who have dedicated themselves and made significant musical contributions while attending the O.P. School District.
- Provide an **on-going music lesson program** available for all instruments and voice during the school year, as well as a Summer Lesson Program.

Visit us soon at The Music Booster Website: opmusicboosters.com

What does it cost to join?

One year membership is a minimum donation of \$10 per family.

1. Scan QR Code (on the right) to use your PayPal account or Credit Card.
-OR-
2. Fill out the form below and mail it in with your donation.



----- Please detach and fill in form -----

Name: _____

Address: _____

School(s): _____

Grade Level(s): _____

Email (optional): _____

Please make check payable to:
Orchard Park Music Boosters

Send the form & check to:
Orchard Park Music Boosters
% Joseph Biondo
Orchard Park High School
4040 Baker Rd.
Orchard Park, NY 14127