

QUAKER NEWS



FROM THE DESK OF MR. WOLF:

A Successful Start to the School Year!

I would like to thank all of the parents who volunteer their time and resources in support of our students. We have had a very successful start to the school year. The Homecoming events had record numbers of attendees! OP athletic teams have rarely achieved such a high level. Our athletes claimed numerous league and sectional championships, were highly ranked and competed deep into the sectional playoffs. The Quaker Marching Band just completed another tremendous season and our concerts have been standing room only. This year's drama "Rehearsal for Murder" will be presented on November 14,15 & 16th. In attending these events I am continually amazed at the level of attendance and parental involvement. I applaud your efforts and I know the students appreciate support as well.

November also signals the end of the first marking period and the posting of the first report card. Please review the report card with your student and feel free to contact his/her teachers or school counselor should you have any questions or concerns. We have several options available to provide extra help and support for students who are experiencing academic difficulty. Parents can also keep closer track of student progress by accessing the Powerschool Parent Portal via OPCSD website (<https://powerschool.opschools.org/>). Please enjoy the upcoming holiday season and "Go Quakers!"

Mr. Jonathan Wolf, OPHS Principal

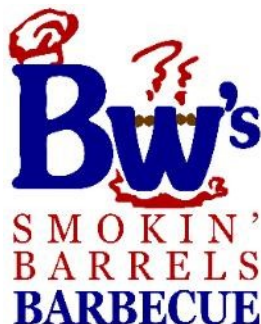
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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- There's still time to join the PTO
- Post Prom Chicken BBQ Nov 13
- SAT test taking info
- Thanks for all those who've pitched in to help with time, donations, & support!

The Orchard Park High School PTO Post Prom Committee
presents....



Grab dinner to go!

Wednesday, November 13th from 3 - 7 p.m.

OPHS Freeman Road Entrance

Chicken Dinner \$11.00

Includes $\frac{1}{2}$ chicken, potato salad, coleslaw, roll

Rib Dinner \$12.00

Includes $\frac{1}{4}$ rack ribs, potato salad, coleslaw, roll

All proceeds benefit Post Prom, a PTO-sponsored drug and alcohol-free party for seniors and their dates following the Prom.

Order at the door or purchase pre-sale to ensure you get your dinner!!!

Pre-sale tickets available through your Membership Toolkit account or email Natalie Lesh at natalielesh2.0@gmail.com.

PTO News & Information



PTO MEMBERSHIP:

It's Not Too Late To Join!! The PTO Membership Drive is the **ONLY** fundraiser for the PTO General Fund. Your \$5.00 Membership Fee helps the PTO support the students and staff of the High School. Less than 25% of High School families have joined so far. Please help us increase this percentage! See pages 4-6 for sign-up details. Thank you!

PTO MEETINGS 2019-20

All meetings are held at 7pm in the **OP high school Media Center II room** (inside the library on the second floor)

11/25 (*no post prom meeting—moved to 12/2 at 7pm)

1/27 4/27

2/24 6/1

3/30

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 before every PTO meeting at 6pm (same location) beginning in October. *November's meeting has been moved to 12/2 at 7pm.**

"Many hands make light work"
John Heywood

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



**November's Post Prom Meeting
Moved to December 2nd at 7pm**

Click the Facebook logo to get to our group



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

11/2 SAT at OPHS—7:30am

11/4 Choral Pops Concert—7pm

11/5 QMB Banquet—6pm

11/5 Parent Information Series:
Social Resilience—6:30pm at HS

11/7 HS & 8th Grade Orchestra
Festival Concert—7pm

11/7 Senior Citizen Spaghetti Dinner
at OPHS

11/11 Veterans Day (no school)

11/13 Collegiate Athletic Signing—
3pm

11/14 & 11/15 HS Fall Drama—7pm

11/16 HS Fall Drama—2pm

11/18 HS Early Dismissal—12:45pm
STAP Comm Meeting—7pm

11/21 Fall College Night—7pm

11/21 & 11/22 HS Seniors Measured
for Caps & Gowns

11/25 PTO Mtg—7pm

11/27-11/29 Thanksgiving Recess
(no school)

12/2 Post Prom Mtg—7pm
(New Date)

12/6 HS Early Dismissal—12:45pm

12/16 STAP Comm Meeting—7pm

12/18 HS Holiday Concert—7pm

12/23-1/3—Winter Break-No School

Want to be a High School Booster???



It's not too late to join the PTO!

Cost of Membership: \$5.00

Perks of Membership:

- access to the online and mobile family directory
- ability to volunteer at various HS events
- the satisfaction of knowing that you are supporting HS students and staff

Two Ways to Join:

1. Join online

(directions on page 5)

Or

2. Submit the paper membership form

(on page 6)

Thank you for your support!

OPHS PTO Online Membership Directions

Membership dues for the 2019 - 2020 school year are \$5.00 per family.

We are excited to announce that the PTO will be using Membership Toolkit instead of My School Anywhere for our communications, online store, online membership, volunteer signups and directory. Every family will need to create a Membership Toolkit account to join the PTO (or submit the attached form and an account will be created for you).

As with any new tool, we anticipate some growing pains. If you have **ANY** issues, please contact Natalie Lesh Schaffer at natalielesh2.0@gmail.com or 225-0412.

To create a Membership Toolkit account and join the PTO:

1. Go to <https://orchardparkhspto.membershiptoolkit.com/> and click the "Register / Log In" button. Click the "Create Account" button on the right side of the page underneath "New User?" Provide your first and last name, email address, create a password and click the "Verify My Email" button
2. Go to your email and click the "Verify My Email" button (check your junk or spam folders if you don't receive it immediately). Enter your password where indicated on the verification screen and click the "Create Account" button
3. Click on "Step 1: Family Information" and provide 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 have to create an account. (You can also invite another parent later.)
4. Proceed to "Step 2: Student Information." Click "Add Student" to enter your first HS child's name and grade. Do not enter Classroom Teacher. Click "I have another student" to add additional HS children to your profile. When all HS children have been entered, **click the "Save" button in the lower right side of the page.**
5. Proceed to "Step 2: Directory Publish Preferences." You can opt out of having your information published in the online directory. 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.
6. Once you have created your account and completed your profile, please visit the Store to join the PTO. While you're joining the PTO, you can also make a donation to the PTO General Fund or to Post Prom. For any store purchase, you can pay online through your Paypal account or mail a check or cash to the PTO.
7. You can also visit the Volunteer page to sign up for events scheduled in the first half of the school year. The sign up for PTO events later in the school year will be posted at the appropriate time.

OPHS PTO Membership Form

As an alternative to joining the PTO online (see previous page for instructions), you can complete this form and an online account will be created for you. Please bring the completed form and your payment to the PTO table at one of the Open House nights (September 11th and 19th) or mail the form and your payment to:

OPHS
Attn: PTO
4040 Baker Road
Orchard Park, NY 14127

Parent Name: _____

Address: _____

Best Email Address: _____

Best Phone Number: _____

High School Child / Children's Names and Grades:

I WANT to be included in the online directory but wish to **keep the following information private** (circle all that apply): phone number, email address, home address, second parent's information, and/or child(s) name and grade(s).

I do NOT want to be included in the online directory at all.

Membership Dues	\$5.00
Post Prom Donation	_____
(see attached Post Prom page for information about donations)	_____
PTO General Fund Donation	_____
Total	_____

Check One: Cash _____ Check # _____

First Half of the Year Volunteer Opportunities (check all that interest you):

<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Tie Dye (8/28)	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Breakfast (8/29)
<input type="checkbox"/> Open House Membership Table (or)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fall Homecoming Dance (9/28)
<input type="checkbox"/> Post Prom Planning Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Donate Baked Goods (all year)

PTO News & Information

If you joined the PTO by submitting a paper membership form, your contact information was entered into Membership Toolkit, the PTO's new communication, donation, volunteering, and tracking system. Once your contact information is entered, you should receive an invitation to create a Membership Toolkit account. Please accept the invitation and follow the directions so that you can volunteer, donate, etc. online in the future. Creating a Membership Toolkit account is the **ONLY** way to establish your directory preferences (like hiding your home address, etc.).

If you do not receive an invitation after submitting a paper membership form, please contact Natalie Lesh Schaffer at natalielesh2.0@gmail.com. Once you create a Membership Toolkit account, you will not need to do it again throughout your student's time at OPHS. Thank you!



Sign up to **VOLUNTEER** and participate in school activities! Many events need only a one-time commitment while others allow you to be involved throughout the year. There are also many things you can do behind the scenes where your teenagers won't see you!! There is still time to select volunteer opportunities that best fit both your interests and time commitment/availability.

Check out [Membership Toolkit](#) for the list, fill out the form on page 6, or email natalielesh2.0@gmail.com.



Post Prom BBQ:

We are in need of some volunteers for this event on November 13th!

Two shifts are available:

2:30 - 5pm and 5 - 7:30pm

Sign up through your [Membership Toolkit](#) account or email natalielesh2.0@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED



Post Prom Party

The Post Prom Party will be held on June 6, 2020 after Prom. Planning and fundraising starts NOW! Please consider attending our next meeting on December 2nd at 7 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!

2019 – 2020 OPHS PTO Events

November

Tuesday, November 25	PTO Meeting	7:00 p.m.
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December

Monday, December 2	Post Prom Meeting	7:00 p.m.
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January

Friday, January 24	Staff Appreciation Lunch	All Day
Monday, January 27	Post Prom Meeting	6:00 p.m.
Monday, January 27	PTO Meeting	7:00 p.m.

February

Saturday, February 8	Winter Homecoming	7:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Monday, February 24	Post Prom Meeting	6:00 p.m.
Monday, February 24	PTO Meeting	7:00 p.m.

March

Monday, March 30	Post Prom Meeting	6:00 p.m.
Monday, March 30	PTO Meeting	7:00 p.m.

April

TBD	World Language Honor Society Induction	7:00 p.m.
Monday, April 27	Post Prom Meeting	6:00 p.m.
Monday, April 27	PTO Meeting	7:00 p.m.

May

Friday, May 15	National Honor Society Induction	7:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 21	Underclass Awards Ceremony	7:00 p.m.

June

Monday, June 1	Post Prom Meeting	6:00 p.m.
Monday, June 1	PTO Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Friday, June 5	Senior Picnic	Morning
Sunday, June 7	Post Prom	12 a.m. – 3 a.m.



2019 – 2020 OPHS PTO Post Prom Information

Post Prom is the largest PTO event of the year and will be held this year at mid-night on June 6, 2020, immediately following Prom. The Post Prom party is a safe, drug and alcohol-free event for OP Seniors and their Prom dates. OP Seniors do not need to attend Prom in order to attend Post Prom.

Last year, almost 400 students attended Post Prom. 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. This year's grand prize will be \$2020.

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 volunteer** in some capacity. Donors are recognized in the monthly PTO Newsletter. You do not need to be the parent of a senior to volunteer – all are welcome!

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

\$ 20.20	2020 Club (2021, 2022, and 2023 Club levels also available)
\$ 50.00	Principal's Club
\$100.00	Superintendent's Club
\$150.00	Community Sponsor
\$250.00	Activity Sponsor

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

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

You can sign up to be a member of the Post Prom Committee through your Membership Toolkit account or through your paper membership form. Additionally, you can contact Post Prom Chair Barb Fowler at bfowler88@gmail.com if you are interested.

The first Post Prom meeting of the year will be held on October 28th at 6 p.m. in Library Media II.

OPHS Post Prom Donations

Activity Sponsor (\$250):

Nicole Zelasko

Superintendent's Club (\$100):

Sherry Major
Michele Chapuis
Christine Tinnesz
Lisa Sharp
Patricia Harrigan
Debbi Filipski
Nicole Zelasko
Cathleen & James Dunlop
Ann & Tim Fischer



Principal's Club (\$50):

Robin Piscitelli
Jeanne Hellert
Debbie Leach
Jennifer Higgins

\$20.20 Club:

Kelly Houseman
Jean Masman
Dori Sajdak
Michelle Knavel
Robin Jubulis
Donna Donohue
Jack Wellington
Laurie Morris
Sheila Eagan
Caren Chaffee
Joanne McClintock
Sarah McBride
Janet Conley
MaryAnn DiSimone
Molly Heraty
Kate Taggart
Kimberly Schmelzinger
Christina Wojciechowski
Donna Malik-Buckley
Jill Norvilitis
Jill Hill
Martha Delozier
Sharon Azurin
Barbara Bdojnik
Sheila Barnes
Amy Jablonski
Zeina Williams
Susan Luchowski
Lisa Taips
Lynn Larkin
Wendy Gloss
Ellen Gibson

\$20.21 Club:

Lisa Gioia
Kristen Mazur
Lisa Hanna
Kim Kamis
Susan Heard
Ann Chojnacki
Natalie Schaffer
Colleen Nielsen

\$20.22 Club:

Maura Watson
Kimberly Schmelzinger
Jody Magner
Susan Heard

\$20.23 Club:

Molly Heraty

General Post Prom Donations:

Dori Sajdak
Sheri Carter
Jennifer Warnes
Tracy Burger
Amy Zboch
Denise Day
Kristi Prince
Barbara Hanlon
Kelly Zarbo
Margaret Stuhr
Charmaine Cwick
Gina Forcucci
Susan Puskar
Danielle Moran
Elizabeth Klenke
Janelle Milliken
Joe Ademec
Melissa Haak

Donations are current through 10/31/2019

Exchange Students at OPHS

Submitted by: Lia Hallett, on behalf of the entire Hallett family incl. Arés Comas

Hosting an exchange student is not anything our family had ever thought about but true happenstance brought Arés Comas to our family and to Orchard Park High School. Last February, a usual Saturday morning chairlift ride at the local ski club in Colden, NY for host father, Jamie Hallett, turned into an opportunity of a lifetime for a teenage girl from Spain, a family of four in Colden and we hope an entire school and community. Jamie was riding the lift with a woman he did not know who noticed his ski coach jacket so she mentioned that the exchange agency (with which she is affiliated) was looking for placement for a high school aged student from Spain who is a ski racer. She asked, "Could you please spread the word around to families you know from the club/race team?" Well we didn't need to spread the word because we said to ourselves: "We ski race, we love new adventures, in fact we were visiting Spain that spring for vacation, *and* we have two OPHS students in our family (Zoe, 9th grade and Ethan 11th)." A family discussion ensued but quickly we all agreed- LET'S DO THIS!



In the months that led up to Arés's arrival, there were definitely a few tentative moments and little "fear of the unknown" but as we learned more about our "Spanish daughter" and about the exchange experience in general we grew more and more excited. We shared our news with friends, families, and even some strangers; and not surprisingly many people had stories of a connection to or interaction with an exchange student. It was reassuring to hear many affirmations about the positive benefits that come with hosting or even just befriending a student from abroad. This unique experience, initiated by *the student* wanting to learn new cultures, habits and ways of living from an American host family, becomes a truly rich and transformative experience for the hosts as well. We are all learning new cultures, habits and traditions and having an "outsider" in the family brings a different and welcomed point-of-view to our household every day. We are also thrilled about now having a global extended family to get to know and share new adventures and journeys with throughout a lifetime. We are already looking forward to a visit to Arés's hometown of Arrós, Spain, in the Val d'Aran region, where her family lives in the Pyrenees with close access to fantastic skiing, mountain biking and many other cultural and adventurous activities. Arés hopes that some OP friends might also visit her in Spain someday.

Compared to her high school back home with about 400 students, OPHS is huge but size is no problem for a new student like Arés who thrives on meeting new people, trying new things and who has many, many interests! She seems to love being here and will tell you that her favorite part OPHS and the Quaker community is..."how everyone makes me feel comfortable; always there if I need them. And...going to all the fun school sponsored events and activities." Having never played soccer, she set her mind to developing the skills to make the team and she just wrapped up her first JV soccer season. When choosing classes, she sought out those that are not options at home and is currently enjoying her Psychology and Elements of Fashion classes most of all. And, the traditions and festivities of "Homecoming Weekend" fell nothing short of spectacular for her, as there is nothing like it at home.

We are grateful to everyone in the OPHS community for welcoming Ares and being a part of her amazing experience. Perhaps some other OP families might also consider this great opportunity! We'd be happy to speak with anyone who might want to learn more about being a host family; feel free to email us at hallettL@buffalo.edu and learn more about the agency that sent Ares here by visiting <https://www.ie-usa.org/>.

"Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all." ~Helen Keller

SAT TEST DATES 2019-2020

SAT – SCHOLASTIC ASSESSMENT TEST

OPHS – CEEB Code 334-325 /Test Center Code: 33-738

(Administered at OPHS in November and May)

- Learn about and Register for the SAT at: www.collegeboard.org REGISTRATION is NOT done through OPHS-- (online only at above site. You must make a student account which takes about 20-30 minutes, unless you already have one from taking the PSAT or an AP course).
- Call 866-756-7346 or 888-SAT-HELP if you are having problems (Be prepared to be on hold!)
- Fees: \$49.50 without essay section/\$64.50 with essay section/Subject tests \$26.00 Payable by credit card online when you register. For more information, click here: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/fees>

SAT Test Dates and Deadline 2019-20- Register online at: www.collegeboard.org

Saturday Test Date	Normal Registration Deadline	Late Registration	Potential Online Score Release
November 2nd At OPHS	October 3rd	October 22nd	Nov. 15-20th
December 7th	November 8th	November 26th	Dec. 20-24th
March 14th **No Subject tests	February 14th	March 3rd	March 27-31st
May 2nd At OPHS	April 3rd	April 21st	May 15-20th
June 6th	May 8th	May 27th	July 15-17th

Any questions, see your counselor or Mrs. Montesano. GOOD LUCK!!!



DRIVER EDUCATION



Information on the Winter/Spring session of Driver Education is available on the district web site, www.opschools.org
Please call 209-6295 with any questions.

5-HOUR PRE-LICENSING COURSE

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

Monday & Wednesday, December 2 & 4, 2019 6:30-9:00pm

Monday & Wednesday, February 3 & 5, 2020 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 \$30.00 fee, submitted to the instructor (make checks payable to Orchard Park Central School District). Sign up at the Community Education Office or call 209-6295.



Need to raise an issue???

OPHS has three Shared Decision Making (SDM) committees that address student, staff, building, and curriculum issues.

STAP-COMM: The High School's student government, composed of students, teachers, administrators, and parents. This group addresses student issues.

Parent reps: Pam Rauh pamelamrauh@gmail.com, Robin Jubulis robinjubulis@yahoo.com, and Michelle Bouton, michelle.leigh.bouton@gmail.com.

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER COUNCIL: Composed of an elected chairperson from each HS department, high school administrators, school related professionals, parents, and a business representative. This group addresses issues pertaining to curriculum and instruction.

Parent rep: Janet Conley, jeconley@me.com, and Laura Kelly, latjkelly@gmail.com.

BUILDING EFFECTIVENESS TEAM: Composed of elected members from the Teachers Association and School Related Professionals Association, high school administrators, parents, and a business representative. This group addresses contractual issues pertaining to the welfare of the school; student and staff welfare and morale; the physical condition of the building; and improvement of the school.

Parent reps: Maura Watson, jdng6@yahoo.com, Kim Kamis kimkamis1@yahoo.com.

If you have an issue you would like raised at any of these committees, please contact the parent rep or fill out the attached form and submit it to the Main Office. The form can also be found at: <https://www.opschools.org/domain/84>.

Orchard Park High School Shared Decision Making Committees Parent Input Form

OPHS SDM committees consist of school administrators, teachers, parents and community members who meet monthly to discuss high school policies, curriculum and event planning.

Item of Concern/Interest/Issue:

Background of the issue (what has been done). Check all that apply:

Spoke with: Teacher _____ Counselor _____ Administrator _____

Your recommendations for solution/outcome:

Name (required): _____ **Date:** _____

Individual Concern _____ Group Concern _____

To be completed following the meeting:

Action (summary): _____