

# Superintendent Report

January 13, 2025



The purpose of the Superintendent Report is to give the Board a high-level overview of the amazing things going on across the district.

# Wrapping Up 2024



Our last board meeting was December 9, and there were many things going on at the end of the year. Here are a few highlights from end-of-year activities throughout the district as students and staff prepared for Winter Break:

- Concerts -
- Special dress-alike days
- School celebration activities
- Class field trip to Geology Museum

These are just a few of the many activities and events that took place throughout the district at the end of December.

# Learning Forward Conference



Our own Instructional Coach, Andrea Fuller, recently joined colleagues from the Greater Madison Writing Project, American Institutes for Research, and New York City Public Schools to present a session at the Learning Forward Conference in Denver, CO. The presentation was entitled, "Improving Student Learning: Harnessing Collaborative Coaching With Teachers," and focused on research-based approaches to sustaining a culture of collaboration. We are so fortunate to have educators with this expertise right here in the OSD!

# 4K Info Session

## LEARN ABOUT OUR 4K PROGRAM



Thurs., Jan 23 | 6:00 p.m. | Oregon High School

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### 4K INFO SESSION

**JANUARY 23, 6 PM, Oregon High School Performing Arts Center, 456 N. Perry Parkway**

All families of students who will be attending 4K in the 2025-2026 school year are invited to our orientation meeting. Students are eligible if they are:

- An Oregon School District Resident
- 4 years old by September 1, 2025
- 5 years old and have not attended 4K
- Planning to attend Kindergarten in the 2026-2027 school year

During this informational meeting, you will....

- ✓ Learn about our 4K play-based approach
- ✓ Meet 4K teachers
- ✓ Get your enrollment questions answered

Free childcare is available for kids 3 and older; contact Lindsay Engelhart for info.



## 4K Author Visit



Starlight Academy had a special treat before winter break—a visit from author Jean Wand! She shared her beautiful story, *Little Evergreen*, with students, spreading joy and inspiration. What a wonderful experience for our 4K learners! ✨📖

## 4K Students Learn About Musicians



4K students at Little Angels Early Learning Center dove into the world of jobs and occupations, exploring what it's like to be a musician!

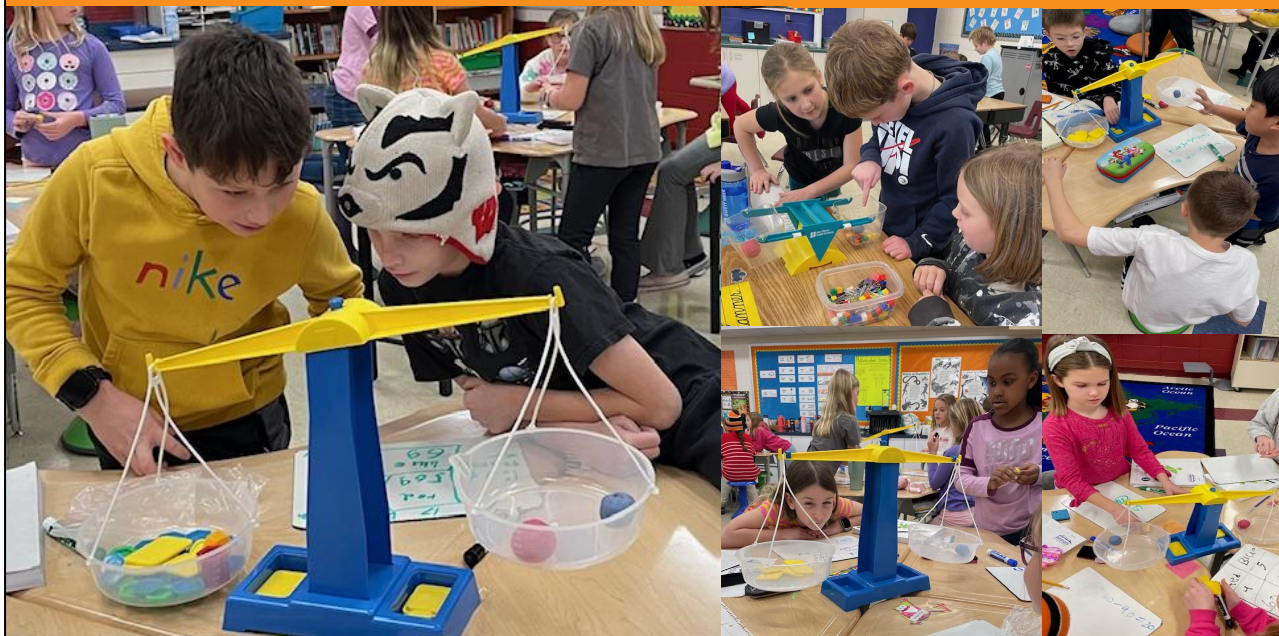
Each student received their very own cardboard guitar and got to unleash their creativity using a variety of materials like scrapbook paper, buttons, gems, yarn, and more.

🎸 Not only did they design their guitars, but they also practiced important skills like scissor cutting, using liquid glue, and engaging in open-ended art. It was incredible to see their unique designs come to life—and even more fun watching them rock out with their personalized guitars!

Future rock stars in the making! 🌟🎤

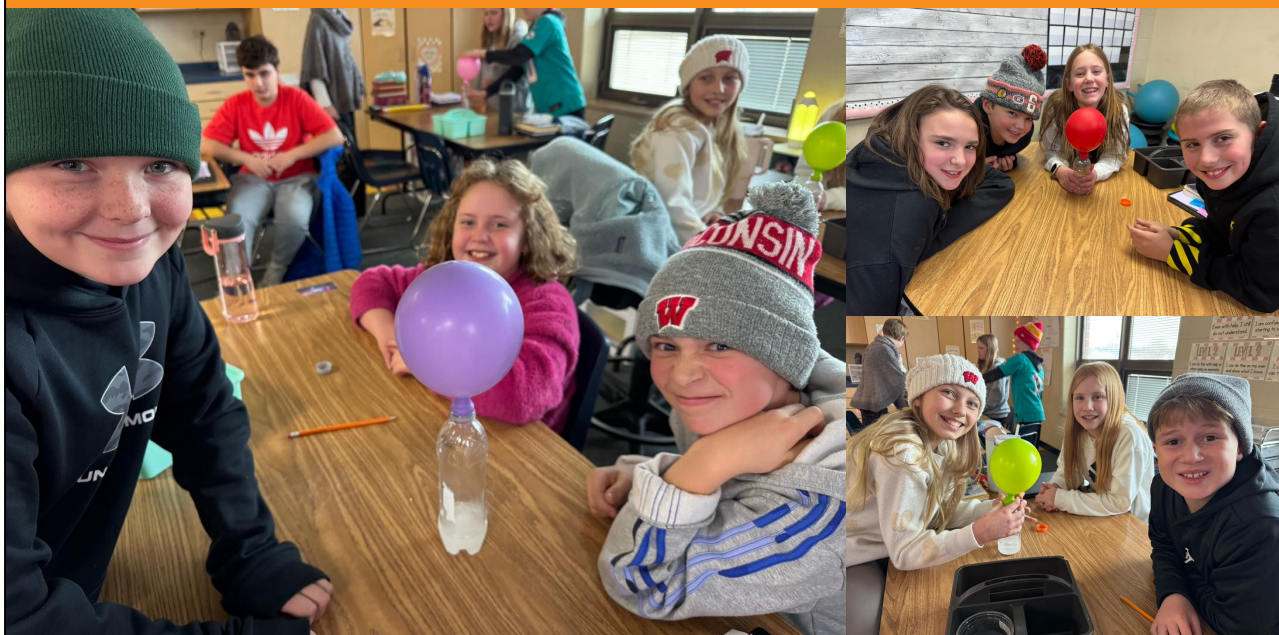


# NKE Mathematicians



Hands-On, Minds-On Learning! 3rd Grade mathematicians at NKE are investigating how to measure mass using various types of scales. Using clay and everyday items, learners are making strong estimates, finding the exact mass and then comparing the difference.

## RCI Students Learn About Chemical Reactions



Students in Ms. Kramer's 5th grade class at Rome Corners Intermediate are learning about chemical reactions!

They did a fun hands on experiment that involved filling a balloon with baking soda and dumping it into a bottle with vinegar. When the baking soda and vinegar mix, it creates the gas, carbon dioxide, and fills the balloon! 🎈

Way to go scientists! 😊👍



## Noetic Math Contest



Congrats to our 6th grade students who received a team achievement award in the Noetic Math Contest this past fall! Teams who score in the top 10% of their grade level globally are awarded a trophy.

We are so proud of you!

# District Spelling Bee



Last week we held the District Spelling Bee and student qualifiers from around the district participated. All students displayed a considerable amount of skill and expertise in their spelling skills as well as displayed an enormous amount of support and encouragement for one another!

After 13 rounds, Bo, Finley, and Grayson will be advancing to the Regional Spelling Bee, which will take place in February. Alyssa and Skylar will be our alternates.

We are so proud of all who participated!

# Youth Apprentice Spotlight

## YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP *Spotlight*



Ashlee - OHS Senior

Ashlee is preparing for a career in the Agriculture career pathway and gaining hands-on skills working as a Veterinary Technician for McFarland Animal Hospital.

#OREGONAchieves



Tonight we are featuring two Youth Apprentice Spotlights. The first is Ashlee, an OHS senior, who is currently working as a Veterinary Assistant at McFarland Animal Hospital. Ashlee was also recently featured on a special [WMTV-15 news segment](#).

Ashlee is preparing for a career in the Agriculture career pathway through our OHS Youth Apprenticeship Program. Courses that have led up to this capstone experience include: Animals, Plants and You; Pet Care/Vet Science; Horse and Animal Science; Natural Resources; Human Anatomy and Physiology; Biology; Veterinary Technician, UW-Madison Introduction to Animal Sciences; and The Biology and Appreciation of Companion Animals. ✨

# Youth Apprentice Spotlight

## YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP

*Spotlight*



Tanner is preparing for a career in the **Science, Technology & Engineering** career pathway and gaining hands-on skills working as a Design Intern at SubZero, Wolf, and Cove!

#OREGONAchieves



Our second Youth Apprentice Spotlight is on Tanner, an OHS senior, who is currently working as a Design Intern at Subzero, Wolf, and Cove. Tanner is preparing for a career in the Science, Technology, & Engineering career pathway through our OHS Youth Apprenticeship Program. Courses that have led up to this capstone experience include: Engineering Drawing and Design, Foundations of Technology, and Engines. In addition, Tanner also participates in the SkillsUSA Technical Drafting Competition  
☀️ This is the first time we have had a student intern with Subzero.

If you or your student is currently a sophomore or junior, now is a great time to start thinking about these options, as class registration will be coming up soon. Students are encouraged to contact their school counselor and Ms. D'Amelio, our School to Career Coordinator to discuss and learn more.

There is also information about this program and others on our website:



OHS Career Based Experiences:

<https://ohs.oregonsd.org/academics/school-to-career>



OSD Portrait of a Graduate:

<https://www.oregonsd.org/district/vision-and-strategic-plan>



# Madison Area Math League Top Score

## CONGRATS OHS MATH TEAM!



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The OHS Math Team recently placed first in the Madison Area Math League competition. Team members include:

- ▼ Jacsyn Disrud
- ▼ Tristan Harm
- ▼ Jack Khalil
- ▼ Owen McKee
- ▼ Winter Wokasch
- ▼ Diego Wooldridge

Congratulations! We are so proud of you! Thanks to Mr. Ebert for serving as advisor to this great group.

## Child Development Class Visits NKE



OHS students in Ms. Weinert's Child Development class recently put their learning into action with a special visit to Netherwood Knoll Elementary! Our OHS students wrote books that incorporated sight words that our 1st graders are learning, and then visited to share the books with the class. There were smiles all around, as our 1st graders LOVE working with the OHS students.

Our OHS Child Development course is the foundational class within the Education & Training, Health Science, and Human Services career pathways. Students have opportunities to continue in advanced courses, earn dual college credit, and participate in internships, all tailored for those interested in careers such as teaching, social work, or other professions focused on working with children. OHS students interested in exploring these pathways should connect with their school counselor to discuss course options and plan their journey.

# Congrats SkillsUSA Team!



☀️ Congrats to our OHS SkillsUSA team on an amazing first competition of the season at Watertown High School.

The competition featured 28 technical and leadership contests, with over 40 schools attending and more than 400 competitors. It was an exciting and inspiring start to the season for our team! Congrats to our eight team members who participated:

- 🏆 Elise Schumann - First Aid/CPR - 1st Place
- 🏆 Tanner Schmidt - Technical Drafting - 3rd Place
- 🏆 Brady Bartlett - Related Technical Math - 3rd Place
- 🏆 James Radel - Related Technical Math
- 🏆 Brady Mamerow - Technical Drafting
- 🏆 Autumn Kuhtz - Photography
- 🏆 Rae Babler - Urban Search and Rescue Robotics
- 🏆 Anish Patel - Urban Search and Rescue Robotics

A huge thanks to Mr. Haakenson and Mr. Stace for serving as advisors to this amazing team. We are so fortunate to have our own educators be so involved in these important learning opportunities.

Learn more about SkillsUSA: <https://www.skillsusa.org/who-we-are/>



# Model UN Conference



Congrats to our amazing OHS students who participated in the recent Model UN conference in Chicago!

Our students did a fantastic job respectfully debating and discussing topics facing our world today, along with a "historical simulation" of events surrounding the world in 2003, including the 2nd Iraq War. Approximately 800 students attended this conference!

A special thanks to Mr. Ziehr who served as advisor for this amazing experience.



# OHS Alumni Day



Last week we hosted Alumni Day at OHS. We had a fantastic group of former students who were here to reflect on their time at OHS, share post-high school experiences, and offer some tips for current students. Juniors and Seniors joined alumni for panel discussions and had the opportunity to ask questions. It is always a special treat to be able to see our alumni and hear about the unique pathways they've pursued and the impactful experiences they've had. They always offer useful words of wisdom to our current high school students and give inspiration to their former teachers and staff. Like Mr. Pliner always says, "Once a Panther, Always a Panther...." it really is true and we are so thankful that they continue to come and give back each year.

After the event, a few alumni joined us for a special podcast, which is available now.....

# Remember to Tune In to the OSD Podcast!



Make sure to check out our podcast: Inside the OSD! You can find all episodes at [OregonSD.org/podcast](https://OregonSD.org/podcast), and anywhere you get your podcasts. Our most recent episodes highlight one of our OHS students who is serving on the Dane County Youth Governance Board, and our Annual Alumni Day.

Make sure to like and subscribe to Inside the OSD wherever you get your podcasts to get the most recent episodes delivered directly to you - we have some great podcasts coming up.

