North Tonawanda City Schools



Congratulations to Our Top Ten!

Bryn Dewey Valedictorian

Parents/Guardians: Neva and Seth Dewey

Honors & Activities: NTHS Student of the Month, AP Scholar with Distinction, President of Gay Straight Alliance (GSA), Vice President of National Honor Society, a member of the Lumberjack

Connection Mentorship Program, a former student at Patrick Sean Daley's Art School and a volunteer at DeGraff Memorial Hospital.

Proudest Academic Achievement: To maximize my preparedness, and in an effort to be a more competitive college applicant, I opted to take five AP and three CAP courses my senior year. Although it was overwhelming at times, the effort was worth it to achieve my greatest academic accomplishment to date; earning Valedictorian status for the NTHS Class of 2023.

Future Plans: Through the Upstate Accelerated Scholars program complete a BS/MD dual degree through SUNY Polytechnic Institute (Bachelors of Science) majoring in Biology and SUNY Upstate Medical School (Medical Degree). Bryn aspires to be a reconstructive surgeon.

Jack Carrasquillo Salutatorian

Parents/Guardians: Amy and Juan Carrasquillo

Honors & Activities: National Merit Scholarship Commended Student, National Hispanic Scholar, President of National Honor Society, Student Council, Student Representative on the Board of Education,

Band Council Treasurer, Pit Orchestra, Pep Band, Jazz Ensemble, Model UN, Tri-M Music Honor Society and Lumberjack Mentoring.

Proudest Academic Acheivement: Being salutatorian of my class. When I entered high school, I didn't think it was likely I would make it this far, but I realized that I was capable of much more if I truly applied myself.

Future Plans: Attending University at Buffalo to obtain a Bachelor's and likely a Master's degree in Computer Science.

Top Ten continued on page 2

Message from the Superintendent



Congratulations to the Class of 2023! We wish you all the best as you go off into

adulthood and start building a life for yourself. Remember to always give more than you get, treat others as you would want to be treated and to follow your dreams. You have proven that nothing can get in your way as you made it through four years of high school with COVID restrictions. You adapted, but more importantly you excelled and came out stronger because of it.

We would love for you to keep in touch so we can hear about all your accomplishments in the near future. Remember we are always here for you if you need anything. We especially look forward to someday hiring some of you as NT Lumberjack staff, if that is the path you choose. No matter what you choose for a career, we know you will make NT proud. Remember to give back to the community when you can. There are hundreds of organizations you can join that help in a number of ways.

You have left big shoes to fill for the Class of 2024. We thank you for all the fond memories you have provided during your time with us. Go out and make new memories, laugh, enjoy the simple things life has to offer and make us even prouder than we already are of you!

You deserve all the best life has to offer.

Sincerely,

Mr. Gregory J. Woytila Superintendent



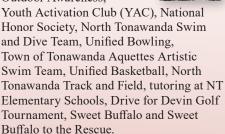
2023 Top Ten

continued from page 1

3. Madison Raby

Parents/Guardians: Tamara and John Raby

Honors & Activities: Foreign Language Club, Outdoor Awareness,



Proudest Academic Acheivement: Maintaining a high GPA throughout High School with a difficult course load while still participating in many extracurricular activities.

Future Plans: Attend Clarkson University for Biology and Pre-Dentistry.

4. Aaryn Samsel

Parents/Guardians: Leah and James Samsel

Honors & Activities: National Honor Society, NFL All-League First Team (Volleyball) MVP, Varsity Baseball, Varsity Volleyball, Drama Club, Mayflower Compact Award, Tri-M Music Honor Society and volunteering at Ohio Elementary.

Proudest Academic Achievement:

Becoming a member of multiple honor societies while being a student athlete and still having the time to balance sports with academics, work and personal life.

Future Plans: Attending SUNY Cortland with a major in Mathematics, minor in Education to become a high school math teacher, and play baseball at the D3 level.

5. Claire Rizzo

Parents/Guardians: Susan M. Connell-Rizzo and James A. Rizzo

Honors & Activities: National Honor Society, Student of the Month, volunteering at nearby churches, working at Galassi's Restaurant and my father's law practice.

Proudest Academic Achievement: Being in the top ten and New York State's 2023 Scholarship for Academic Excellence.

Future Plans: Attending SUNY Buffalo State University.

6. Natalie Mellenthine

Parents/Guardians: Stephanie and Craig Mellenthine

Honors & Activities: National Honor Society, Science Olympiad, Model UN, Swim, Lacrosse, Volleyball and Academy of Architecture and Engineering.

Proudest Academic Achievement:

My proudest accomplishment has been placing 6th in a Science Olympiad Bridge Competition and continuously working hard in my classes to maintain high averages and knowledge.

Future Plans: Attend Niagara University to study Biology and completing predental requirements to then go on to dental school and become a dentist.

7. Emily Zander

Parents/Guardians: Lisa and Geoffrey Zander

Honors & Activities: TNL Scholar Athlete Award, All Western New York Athlete Award, First Team of the NFL

for Varsity Soccer and Basketball, Student of the Month, Girls Basketball all-time scorer record, Lacrosse, Flag Football, Senior Class Vice President, Vice President of the Outdoor Awareness Club, Model UN, Hot Dog Committee and National Honor Society.

Proudest Academic Achievement: Top 10 of Class, Member of National Honor Society, Excelling in all of my college

Future Plans: Attending the University of Tampa for Physical Therapy/Sports Medicine.

8. Ava Johnston

Parents/Guardians: Kristen Bauerlein and Thomas Johnston

Honors & Activities: JV Soccer, Outdoor Awareness Club, National Honor Society,

Yearbook Club, Youth Activation Committee, Unified Bowling, Unified Basketball, Hot Dog Committee, Senior Class Secretary, Student Council Secretary and working at Platter's Chocolate Factory.

Proudest Academic Achievement: Being accepted into the Physician's Assistant program at Daemen University, maintaining honor roll, Top 10, Student of the Month and being nominated/recognized as a Quality Student.

Future Plans: Attending Daemen University's five-year Physician's Assistant program.

9. Rylee Keiffer

Parents/Guardians: Deborah Hersee and Kenneth Keiffer

Honors & Activities: 7th at Public Speaking Nationals, IEA National Sportsmanship

Award, National Honor Society Secretary, Foreign Language Club President, Girls Varsity Swim/Dive Captain, Academy of International Studies, Animal Club, Blue Ribbon Riders, 4-H Club President and Hunters Ridge IEA Team Captain.

Proudest Academic Achievement: Top 10, scoring a 4 out of 5 on the AP Literature Exam during the hybrid school year.

Future Plans: Attending Clark University for Environmental Sciences.

10. Gianna D'Agostino

Parents/Guardians: Dawn and Cory D'Agostino

Honors & Activities: Varsity Cheerleading, Outdoor Track, National Honor Society

Historian, Model UN Secretary, Outdoor Awareness Club, Lumberjack Mentoring, S.A.D.D. (Students Against Destructive Decisions) and Academy of Health Sciences.

Proudest Academic Achievement: Top 10 and maintaining high honor roll all four years of High School. First person in my household to attend college.

Future Plans: College of Nursing at Niagara University.





North Tonawanda High School **Graduating Class of 2023**

Zachary Ryan Abramo lsabela Grace Alessandra Noah Scott Allan Kayla Heidi Annunziato Sarah Marie Baase Noah James Banas Grant Thomas Bangs Andrew Benjamin Barnes Sarina Abigailyn Barney Brooke Mackenzie Barone William Charles Bartel Teagan Christina Batt Skyla Rose Behrens Warren Robert Bennett Cloe Eva Block Madison Nicole Bouley Patrick John Brick Jr. Joshua Michael Briggs Charlotte Brown Kevin Raymond Brydalski Dominic Jeremy Burgess Jacob Butta Benjamin Samuel Cabantog Matthew Joseph Cake Lacey Catherine Campbell Richard Michael Campbell Rosalie Ann Carey Jack Bennett Carrasquillo Madison Carolann Chaplin Santino Miracalo Christopher Samuel Thomas Heim Paige Isabella Colegrove Eleanor Joy Collins Emma Margaret Correnti Supearl McKayla Cortez Annabelle Grace Crago Kathryn Rose Crago Meghan Elizabeth Cress Dominic Dennis Czajka Gianna Rose D'Agostino François DeGrasse Sydney Nicole Devonshire Bryn Sommerled Dewey Emileigh Marie DiRosa Haley Mary Dixon Ryan Patrick Donovan Rachel Lynn Dotterweich Madison Rose Downey Rebecca Sarah Durfey Jacob Michael Durst Ariel Marie Elliott Hailey Jean Farris Allyson Victoria Fell

Isaac James Fesmire Jared Ryan Fields Olivia Zyne Fleming Brooke Danielle Formaniak Madison Louann Francis Lindsay Marie Franklin Dylan Michael Franusiak William Jerrold Fritzke Damin James David Gaglia Anthony Joseph Galante II Brandon Thomas Gampp Damian Jesus Garcia Leah Johanna Gardiner Dmitriy A. Gargun Adeline Loretta Graff Kaylie Nichole Greene Joseph Nicholas Gregori Colby Paul Hadden Jessica Dawn Haentges Mario Richard Handley Devin Lea Hanna Jacob Christopher Hanna Sophia Lina Harkins Emma Grace Harnden Kiyana Ann Harris Evangeline Ellen Harroun Nathan Christopher Hartman Quinn Ethan Haynes Dylan Jon Hebeler Lucas Scott Heim Noah Adam Heiss Aiden Michael Hergert Regester Ava Rose Heuser Cadence Elizabeth Hill Evan Patrick Hirner Isabella Sophia Hooley Madison Lynne Hubbell Henry Butler Hughes VI Carmella Jean Ivancic Zachary Kenneth James Taj Danesh Kateli Dakota Hank Keem Rylee Mckenna Keiffer Taryn Alisse Kelly Ariana Mae Kennedy Christopher Armitage Knight Grace Anne Knox Aiden Louis Kramer Jacob Stephen Kuligowski Marissa Nicole Lafferty

Eric Matthew Lake Aryanna Michele Licht Jeremiah Ezequiel Lopez Dominic Russell Loverme Sara Aileen Lynch Jacob Damian Lynch Elizabeth Ellen Lyons Molly Kathleen Lyons Tyler James Magno Nicholas Timothy Magno Raygen Nicole Manzare Alyssa Rose Marella Dalton Nicholas Marranca Joshua Joseph Mascardo Alyssah Jolia Mathewson Emilee Claire Matteson Emilee Faith McGuinness Cade Argus McGurty Nathan James McKee Liam James McNamara Patrick William McNeill Matthew Scott McTiernan Gabriel Anthony Meister Natalie Jane Mellenthine Kacey Mercer Moses Frank-Theophilus Merchant Isabel Katherine Meyer Juliana Lily Miller Autumn Ann Marie Miller Tessa Ann Frances Moderacki Aysia Jade Moran Ouinn Morehouse Alexzander Nelson Jack Patrick Orrange Christopher Arnold Ott Tava Christine Parmentier Ian Brice Pasiak Brayden Gregory Paul Pawelczak **Emily Lynn Peace** Jack Michael Porter Madison Marie Raby Graham Christian Rachow Cori Arin Racinowski Clayton Matthew Ramey Gianna Marie Ratzel Lilith Patricia Raynor Owen Matthew Reed Tyler Joseph Richeal

Claire Elizabeth Rizzo Anthony Louis Rizzo Emily Lynn Rocco Olivia Rose Rogers Aaryn Louis Samsel Ah'launna Michelle Sanchez Jada Elise Sanchez Jackson Elijah Scarpace Peter Drake Schwagler Daniel Isadore Scime Carly Jane Seaman Michael Gary Burton Shapiro Brian Shillenn Savannah Havlie Shine Noah Stuart Smith Bradley Ray Smith Jr. Emilee Christian Solecki Paige Violet Spatorico Matthew James Spear Bo Alexander Staly Daniel Matthew Stolzenfels Steven Todd Stroh Jr. Haleigh Elizabeth Suitor Axavier James Szabad Joel Elijah Thoms Dominic James Tubiolo Marina Viktorovna Tupchik Nigel Walter Usiak James William VanCuran Parker John VanHoff Carlo Vanoni Jason Matthew Vest Samantha Maie Wachowicz Adriana Renee Waldmiller John Thomas Wasyl Ill Marisa Rhianon Faye Wasyl Jesse Martin Webster

Kane Charles Stephen Wells Nathan David Wetzel Jersie Lynn Wienckowski Tatyana Jade Williams-Steele Connor Michael Wood Nicolas Vivino Woods Ayden James Woolston Mya Jade Wright Mark Matthew Wybieracki Ill Jack Ryan Yackamovich Christian Alexander Young Jaedon Casimir Zalewski **Emily Ronnie Zander**

Foreign Exchange Students Henry Lanio Elena Aisha Lofino Simone Marcon Tiark Nienstedt

January 2023 Graduates Rihanna Sky Boehringer lnahra Elizabeth Mack Aidan Ryan Travis



Student Council President Isabella Hooley on graduation



Superintendent Greg Woytila and Board of Education at

Nash William Rieselman

Madelyne Katherine Ringler

Ohio School Gets Book Vending Machine

Ohio School has a new exciting addition to its building, a book vending machine.

Our students and families raised \$6,500 to purchase the machine by hosting a Color Run this past fall. The machine is customized to include the Little Jack Owl theme, reminding the students to have a passion and love for reading.

The book vending machine was fully stocked in March and a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held to celebrate. Ms. Mauro's and Mrs. Lequeux's third grade class received the "Golden Ticket" to be present for the kick-off. Three students were then given book tokens and received the machine's very first books. Ohio students will receive a book each year on their birthday, and tokens will be handed out as incentives for modeling

positive Little Jack characteristics.





Spruce Students Engage in Teamwork



Classrooms at Spruce Elementary School engaged in Teamwork Centers for part of the Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Curriculum.

Instead of always staying in the classroom and talking about SEL, School Social Worker Liz Aures and School Counselor Chris Zon brought multiple classrooms into the gym to work together as teams. Students received a lesson on teamwork and engaged in centers to display this important skill.

Students and staff participated in relay races, parachute and hula-hoop games, and played rock paper scissors. Each one of these tasks, designed to cheer each other on, embodied copperation and teamwork. The students enjoyed seeing fellow classmates and participating in these SEL topics in a fun and engaging way.



Middle School Runs New Studio in Art Class

Art teacher, John Szablewski, says he is very excited that NT Middle School decided to bring back the Studio in Art class. "It has been a long time since they have offered this course, it has been great having it back this year. The administration placed an emphasis on getting students more involved and helping them find their niche." A group of eighth grade students were selected based on teacher recommendations to participate in the program.

The class is designed to start with the basics including art history, drawing and painting, and the elements and principles of art. The students are encouraged to express themselves artistically. There is also a small photography unit which cumulated with a recent trip to the Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens. "The light and the beauty there made it a great space for the students to take photos," says Szablewski. "In the future we are hoping to cover animation, which allows students to learn new media along with traditional fine arts. I am looking forward to cultivating these students' talents, it is great having them for the whole year to do so and not just part of the year."

"We want to give some students who might be getting overlooked a chance to excel here," explains Szablewski. "The students were very excited about being chosen for this class. They really want to be here and participate because they love working with their hands. We have definitely seen an improvement in attendance."



Tops Reopening Benefits District Programs

At the North Tonawanda Tops reopening the North Tonawanda City School District was gifted with \$1000 in gift cards. Superintendent Greg Woytila was on hand to receive the generous donation. "This will enhance science consumables in each building and build support for our Family Resource Center. We are very grateful."



(LtoR) Tops Store Manager Sam Qureshi and Superintendent Greg Woytila.

Color Run

Friends of NTI held a Color Run in May, and it was a blast! As students and their families ran the track, teachers and volunteers tossed colorful chalk at them.

Everyone then enjoyed a color war led by DJ Keidel to complete the night. It was a messy and memorable night.



Going Hawaiian!

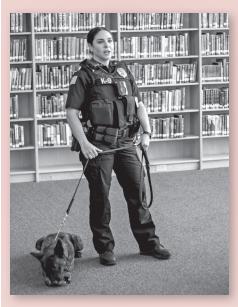
Our fourth graders at NTI were enjoying the somewhat tropical breezes of North Tonawanda at the end of the school year.

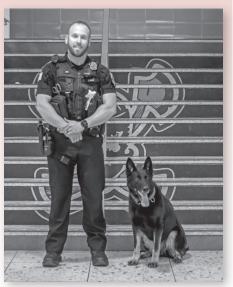
They had a fun and festive time with their Hawaiian themed outing! Here are Mrs. Bakula and her class.



Law Enforcement Talks Careers with High School Students

We are so grateful for the law enforcement officers who took time out of their schedules to talk careers with our high schoolers. On June 5th, Officer Stephanie Fabiny, a NTHS graduate, was here to career speak on behalf of the NFTA K-9 Police. June 6th- US Marshall Officer Lim, Officer Pappas and Officer Bona were here from the US Marshall's office. June 7th-Officer Melchiorre and Officer Jacobson were here to discuss careers in Homeland Security. On June 8th- Officers Kam and Officer Donahue were here on behalf of the NT K-9 Police.





Literacy Awards

On May 4, 2023, over 250 students, families and teachers gathered at the North Tonawanda Fine Arts Center to celebrate literacy excellence! The Orleans-Niagara Teacher Center, a NYS grant funded program specializing in high quality professional learning, sponsors a literacy contest for students in grades K-8 every year. This year the theme was "Try, Try Again: How Effort, Energy and Creativity are the Keys to Success." Hundreds of children wrote stories about how they, someone they know, or someone they read about has overcome challenges to become successful. Students wrote about themselves, family members, teachers, famous people and fictional characters. In all, 26 teachers from eight districts across Niagara and Orleans counties participated in the program and submitted the best student entries from their classes. The Teacher Center received 92 outstanding entries in total!

Congratulations to our winners: Audriella Hill, Grace Bowker-Pasiak, Rylie Pendergast and Evan Kinney.



third grader Grace Bowker-Pasiak reads her entry to the audience.

National Decision Day

On Monday, May 1st, the NTHS High School Counselors/Career Center hosted "National Decision Day."

Seniors were recognized and celebrated for their post graduation plans. Students wrote on a sign their future plans and were entered into raffles to win prom tickets and college apparel.



Wellness Week A Huge Success

Thanks to the new North Tonawanda CSD Wellness Committee, students had a great week at the high school the week of May 15th. Board of Education member Gabrielle Richards has been instrumental in starting the initiative this past school year. "We have opened this up districtwide to anyone interested in being part of the committee," she explains. "We also have community members and our future plans are definitely getting more students involved. We used the district's wellness policy as



Harper with students and Gabrielle Richards.

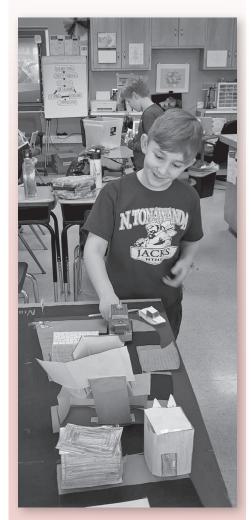
a starting point and started the week with a wellness fair. We worked with administration, teachers and the Business Department to find appropriate vendors to make this beneficial to our students."

A May date was picked because it is Mental Health Awareness month and this time of year is particularly stressful for students with exams, end of the year events and preparing for graduation. Among the week's activities were yoga, taekwondo, a unified basketball game and a day in the courtyard with therapy dogs Crush and Harper. Crush, a St. Bernard, was with his owner Wendi Pencille and Harper, a beagle, was with his owner Carol Sayre. The two dogs are part of PAWS for Love organization and students were invited to come and interact with them during the school day. One student, Bridget, said as she petted Harper, "This is great. It relieves all my school stress getting to see the dogs." Mrs. Richards looked on happily, "It is great to see the students' reactions and seeing the courtyard being used in this manner. The committee is really looking forward to doing more for the students hopefully push these programs into the Middle School and NTI."



Crush with students and Gabrielle Richards.

The Food Truck **Project**



Fourth graders, in Mrs. Colletta's classes at NTI, combined local social studies, math, engineering, design and coding while completing a food truck project.

First, students designed logos and created menus for their food trucks. Then, as a class, students brainstormed and discussed landmarks with historical significance in North Tonawanda. Each student built a 3D model of a local building, which was then used to create a 3D map of North Tonawanda. Next, they built models of their food trucks using Legos and Edison robots. Finally, students had to measure angles and distances to accurately block code their robots to go from one location on the map to another.

Mrs. Colletta said, "The students were totally engaged in multi-disciplinary learning from start to finish and absolutely loved this project."

NTI Fun



Thank you to our amazing community for supporting our students at NTI!

NTI students had the opportunity in April to lead a family fun night. Student volunteers teamed up with classmates and their families to create interactive stations that other Junior Jack families came to enjoy. There were a wide-range of ideas such as a photo booth, directive drawing, a banana piano, make-your-own slime, elephant toothpaste, Karaoke, and snakes! Over 200 students and their families attended this fun and creative night!

Students at NTI participate in various after-school activities such as Gaming Club, Spirit Club, Culture Club, Garden Club, and Art Alive all year long. As a culminating event, the clubs worked together to host a spaghetti dinner to raise funds to support the after-school activities. Students led the night by becoming servers, bussers, and hosts/hostesses. Families were treated to a delicious dinner with everything being donated by local restaurants, florists, and stores.



Seniors Prepare for Graduation



Cap and gown modeled by Madelyne Ringler and Dominic Tubiolo.

The NTHS Student Council and Senior Class celebrated their Seniors during their Moving Up Day ceremony on Tuesday, June 13th.

It gave everyone a chance to recognize and congratulate our current Senior Class and Student Council Officers. It was also a chance to say our farewells to our foreign exchange students, yearbook dedication, revealing of the locker time capsule, handing out red, white & blue awards, senior recognitions, modeling of the cap and gown, the Senior Officers speech and memories captured on video of the Class of 2023.

The celebration included a special farewell video for our SRO Officer Snopkowski, who will be retiring this year. Our own NTHS Pep Band led the processional playing Pomp & Circumstance and one of our seniors played the National Anthem on the saxophone.

The afternoon was followed with a barbecue for our Seniors, hosted at Gratwick Firehouse by our NT Police Department. Congratulations Class of 2023!

Ohio Students Design Winter Wonderland

Some third grade students at Ohio School showed off their Sphero robot coding skills to their schoolmates. Under the direction of Gifted Education Specialist Emily Colletta, the students designed a winter wonderland landscape map on paper that shows a festival layout for their robot to travel down.

The teams of students used an iPad to control their sphere down the streets of Snowflake Valley as they talked to their observers about their process of designing the town's festival and how they programed their robot's movements. It was a great way to show off their creativity!





WNY Invention Convention

It was an extremely exciting day at the WNY Invention Convention, held at the Buffalo Museum of Science. Students who attended were invited based on the scores they received at our NTI Invention Convention held before spring break. They worked for several weeks on their projects — brainstorming ideas for problems, researching, developing designs and prototypes, testing and redesigning, and finally marketing. This project took a lot of determination, creativity and problem solving.

There were approximately 70 students who participated in the WNY Invention Convention, representing 14 different schools in WNY. While there, students had to speak about their process and product, answering questions posed by several judges. It was nerve wracking, but our kids rocked it. Gifted and Talented Specialist Emily Colletta says, "I am pleased to say that almost one-third of the prizes awarded were to students from NTI! We had eight students who brought home awards. Another two of our students were featured on WGRZ! I could not be more proud. We have so much talent here in North Tonawanda and I cannot wait for next year."

Students who attended the event are: Natalia O'Connell

Claire Cich

Ashlyn Gabel

Peyton Garver

Natalie Leiser

Georgia Dentinger

Sophie Stimson

Haydee Hurlbert

Emma Turk

Kurt Davidson

Lucia Trometer

Lilianna Cap

Haley Hauser

Adalynn Johnson

William Ginnick

Nora Borowiec

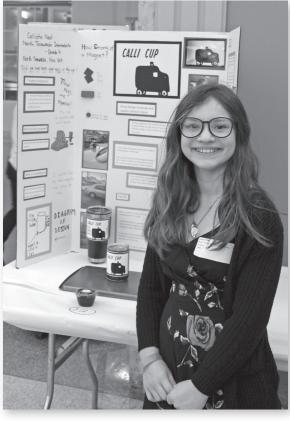
Callista Neal

George Colletta

Students who were awarded prizes: Kurt Davidson Callista Neal William Ginnick Emma Turk Haydee Hurlbert

Natalia O'Connell Lilianna Cap Lucia Trometer

Lucia Tromete Mia Randles



Callista Neal

Moving Upwards!

Our sixth graders at NTI celebrated a milestone as they got ready to attend the Middle School next year. Staff made sure the students had a memorable day at a field day where they got to dunk some of their favorite teachers in a dunking tank, slide down a blow-up slide, played games and just enjoyed time hanging out.



Student Government Day



The NT Recreation Department and the NTHS Student Council brought back Student Government Day on Tuesday, May 2nd.

It was an opportunity for NT High School students to run for and be elected for city office positions. They were able to shadow various department heads, city officials and tour city buildings and even ran a city meeting. The students were able to visit NT City Hall, the Department of Public Works, NT Police Station, NT Fire Headquarters and the Water Waste Treatment Plant.

This was a wonderful way for students to be involved and to understand how government functions.



North **Tonawanda Baskethall Camp**



The NT Boys Basketball staff and players welcome you to come enjoy an opportunity to improve your skills and mindset, grow your love for the game while learning to be a great teammate. For boys entering grades 5-8.

Date:

July 24th-28th from 8:30 am-12:00 pm at NTHS Alumni Gym

Cost: \$100

For more information scan the QR Code or email rmountain@ntschools.org.





Two Schools In North Tonawanda City District Reach Woz Ed **Pathway Status - A Dedication To Stem Learning**



(LtoR) Michael Tambroni (NTCSD Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Student Services), Greg Woytila (NTCSD Superintendent), Steven Sabo (NTCSD Technology Integration Specialist), John Steckstor (Ohio Elementary Principal), Greg Burgess (NT Intermediate Principal). Back Row: (LtoR) Steve Wozniak and Karen Young (CEO of WozEd, K-12).

"Woz Pathway schools are an elite group of schools that exemplify teaching and learning designed for students to explore their future in the tech economy." These schools are recognized by Apple co-founder, Steve Wozniak, as change-makers in STEM education.

To earn this status, schools must meet specific criteria. This includes: have at least one dedicated STEM teacher, have at least one STEM-based class for each student, have a 1:3 device to student ratio, maintain a dedicated room on campus for the use of Woz ED kits such as robotics or drone building, and offer at least five career pathways for students to explore.

North Tonawanda City School District is made up of three elementary schools, one middle school, one intermediate school, and one high-school. Two of the elementary schools, Spruce Elementary and Drake Elementary, have met the criteria and successfully implemented seven career pathways, as well as introducing what they call the "Innovation Station," as their STEM lab.

With the introduction of the district's STEM initiative, teachers and administrators are committed to preparing their students for the future. Educators are working hard to give the students of North Tonawanda a whole new world of possibility. This is only the beginning. The goal is for each school in the district to follow Spruce and Drake Elementary Schools and, ultimately, grow the STEM programs across the district.

Gearing Up for Art Alive

Students had a blast at the District Art Show reenacting renowned artist, Dale Chihuly's 'Fiori Boat', the soft opening of the upcoming Art Alive Celebration at the Albright Knox Art Gallery.

Art Alive participants create living representations of famous works of art for great prizes. Students in Mrs. Karen Knight's Art Alive Club at NTI worked very hard all year and are excited to compete at the upcoming Art Alive Celebration on September 23rd at the Albright Knox Art Gallery from 12 pm-2 pm. Be sure to look for the flyer in the Fall regarding the event!



ACE Mentoring Program

For the last couple of years, NTHS has participated in the ACE Mentoring Program. It is for high school students to help pursue careers in architecture, engineering, and construction through mentoring and support. It exposes students to real-world opportunities by working and building a project together, with people already working in the industry and professions. The ACE Mentoring Program is supported financially through scholarships and grants so there is no cost. It is a great way to learn and make connections to people already working in these industries!

This year's project was building a playhouse that will be donated to a family through Make-A-Wish Foundation. A special **THANK YOU** to the following people and companies involved, for your devoting your time and expertise in helping design and help build this playhouse:

CPL Architecture, Engineering & Planning Team - Melanie Anderson, Marissa Colucci, Lauren Pacheco.

Active Workforce Inc. - Executive Director of Operations- Marie Patton Construction Exchange of Buffalo & WNY - Jennifer Van Dusen

LeChase Construction - Salvatore Casuccio **Empire GMG -** Aaron

Periodic Consulting - Sean Umlauft

Wendel Companies - Leanne Voit

North Tonawanda High School Technology & Engineering Teachers

- Mr. Blask and Mr. Cook



First Responders Day



The NTHS Career Center and High School student counselors hosted a "First Responders Day" in the Library Media Center. We were grateful for the huge turnout from these professionals who graciously donated their time and expertise. Students were able to walk table to table to learn about the different careers available to them upon graduating from high school. They also enjoyed participated in some hands-on demonstrations of what each job entails.

A special thank you to all those that participated: The NT Police, NT Fire Department, Niagara County Sheriff and their Communications/911 and Traffic Safety Departments, NYS Troopers, Niagara Falls Air Force Base Fire Department, Niagara Falls Med Evac Unit with Air Force Reserves, US Border Patrol, US Navy, US Air Force, US Army, US Air National Guard, US Army National Guard, US Coast Guard and UB University Police.



Alumni Talk Careers in Engineering

The Career Center and NT High School Counselors wrapped up the school year by inviting in alumni here to talk to our high school students about careers in engineering.

A special thank you to Ethan Mellenthine (2020 Graduate) who is attending the Engineering Program at UB and interning with the City of North Tonawanda, Travis Sikora (2013 Graduate) who is an Assistant Engineer for the North Tonawanda Department of Engineering and Chelsea Marshall Spahr (2004 Graduate) who is the North Tonawanda City Engineer.



(LtoR) Ethan Mellenthine, Travis Sikora, Chelsea Spahr and Mr. Chris Cook, Teacher of Engineering at NT High School.



NORTH TONAWANDA CITY SCHOOLS

176 Walck Road North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Board of Education

Matthew Kennedy, President Stephanie Emiliani, Vice President Peter Chenier, Jr. Cheryl McMahon Chloe Mulvaugh Gabrielle Richards Dr. Krista Vince Garland Jack Carrasquillo, Student Member

> Gregory J. Woytila Superintendent of Schools www.ntschools.org



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NT Athletes Sign Letters of Intent for Colleges

Several Jacks signed their Letters of Intent on March 29th in the High School Library. A Letter of Intent is a contract signed by both the student-athlete and their college that commits them to playing sports for their school. Athletic Director Matt Cook says this is a very exciting time for the students and their families and that he is very proud of the hard work they have put in to get to this moment.

Lacey Campbell signed her letter to play softball for University of Pittsburgh at Bradford where she will study Forensic Science. Ryan Donovan will be playing Baseball for Finger Lakes Community College where he will be studying Athletic Training. Brandon Gampp will be at SUNY Buffalo State University playing soccer and has not declared a major as of yet. Samuel Heim will be playing baseball at Niagara County Community College and will major in Business. Taj Kateli will be attending SUNY Potsdam where he will play volleyball and study History. Nash Rieselman will be playing football for Grove City College and majoring in Sports Management. Haleigh Suitor will be attending Nazareth College to play softball and study Occupational Therapy.

