# North Tonawanda City Schools



### **Message from the Superintendent**

Congratulations to the Class of 2024!

We had our highest graduation rate in a decade; it is all due to the hard work of the entire K-12 staff and this class of students. You pushed through a difficult high school experience that saw remote learning, masking, and social distancing. Your tenacity to stick to it and make the best of a difficult situation will prove to help you in everything that you encounter as you begin your adult lives.

If your path should take you away from NT, remember to come back often to visit. No matter where you end up, remember to be kind, friendly and caring in this world, as you are the future. You are the ones that will make this a better world for future generations.

You will always be a Lumberjack and are always welcome back. GO JACKS!

Sincerely,

Mr. Gregory J. Woytila Superintendent

### **Congratulations to Our Top Ten!**

May Vargas *Valedictorian* 

**Parents/Guardians:** Robert and Vivian Mistretta

**College Plans/After Graduation Plans:** University at Buffalo

Major: Aeronautical Engineering



#### Samantha Holenstein *Salutatorian*

**Parents/Guardians:** Michael and Kelynn Holestein

**College Plans/After Graduation Plans:** Rochester Institute of Technology

Major: Psychology



Top Ten continued on page 2





### 2024 Top Ten

continued from page 1



#### 3. Summer Colegrove

**Parents/Guardians:** Brian and Rachel Colegrove

**College Plans/After Graduation Plans:** SUNY Brockport

Major: Accounting



#### 4. Gwendolyn Moran

**Parents/Guardians:** Brian and Amy Moran

**College Plans/After Graduation Plans:** Daemen University

**Major:** Animation





#### 5. Luke Kolbe

Parents/Guardians: Mark and Rachelle Kolbe

**College Plans/After Graduation Plans:** SUNY Niagara

**Major:** Engineering Science

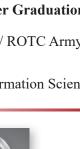


#### 6. Harrison Roberts

**Parents/Guardians:** Michael and Sara Roberts

**College Plans/After Graduation Plans:** Niagara University/ ROTC Army

**Major:** Computer and Information Sciences





#### 7. Kyler Shiesley

**Parents/Guardians:** Kevin Shiesley and Bonnie McFadden

**College Plans/After Graduation Plans:** Clemson University

Major: Business



#### 8. Avery Geartz

**Parents/Guardians:** Jeremy and Julie Geartz

**College Plans/After Graduation Plans:** SUNY Brockport

**Major:** Nursing



#### 9. Eva Cruz

**Parents/Guardians:** Jennifer Cruz

**College Plans/After Graduation Plans:** Yale University

**Major:** English & Philosophy



#### 10. Leah Anson

**Parents/Guardians:** John and Patricia Anson

**College Plans/After Graduation Plans:** St. Bonaventure University

**Major:** Sports Media

### **North Tonawanda High School Graduating Class of 2024**

Sara Ann Agueci Kristian Ismael Alicea Romeon Midelton Alriche Breanna Sandra-Ann Andolina Dakota Timothy Andrews Leah Rose Anson Jasur Mansur Badalov Javdie Baez Alanah Marie Baker Doris Mary Baker Jack Steven Baker Alanna Renee Banas Jayden Anthony Bartolomei Aaron Russell Batch Morgan Elise Bavaro Mitchell Jacob Berg Jacquelyn Elizabeth Bihary Aaron Daniel Bille Anthony Gabriel Billi Joseph Bert Blose II Mia Elizabeth Bond Allysondra Areele Borzellere Hailey Grace Bronson Colin Michael Brosius Haylee Nicole Brosius Caitlin Mary Brumley Aurora Morgana Brush Chloe Danielle Bullen Blake Busch Ebin James Bush Dominic Joseph Caccamise Bridget Kathleen Cake James Donald Campas Layla Marie Carey Reilly Meghan Carney Ariana Jade Caron Archer Cristobal Carrasquillo Laci Kathleen Gregorio John Charles Cepuchowski Leah Kathleen Cerrillo Bravden Patrick Claroni-Breen Summer Leigh Colegrove Lilly Corp Eva Victoria Cruz Noah Bradley Czerwinski Joseph William Daddis **Bipin Dahal** Cara Michelle Daly Ethan Joseph DeMonte Colton Michael Dempsey Kalista Jane Denniston MaKenzie Ann DePonceau Jada Grace Derwald

Madeline Grace DeVantier Matthew Romeo DiGiulio Ryan Andrew Dirmyer Jenna Lynn Ditzler Cv Rion Doane Nicholas Paul Drabinski Elizabeth Christine Duffy Mackenzie Rose Edwards-Soos Natalie Annaleen Endres Mason Maxwell Evarts Jaxson Lynn Farley Marissa Elizabeth Farruggia Ethan Robert Fetterhoff Asia Bea Fields Zachary Karl Fiorentino Joshua Justice Fisher Blake Michael Fitzgerald Camerin David Flaig Logan Scott Furman Sara Leanne Gabel Dylan Thomas Gagnon Kira Ann Gajewski Gianna Nevaeh Galletta Isabella Marie Gang Lillian Elizabeth Gannon Denis A Gargun Delancy Amelia Garven Karly Rae Garver Alyssa Marie Gaze Avery Michelle Geartz Madelyn Gibson Mason Michael Gioeli Dominic Paul Giolando Brianna Isabella Gregoretti Jason Mario Gregori Nina Sharlene Grobe Bradley Alexzander Gross-Kropp Leah Marie Hall Zachary Evan Hanna Zakkery Gage Hanna Dylan James Hansson Brett Robinson Harris Summer Rae Hayes Aidan James Haynes Hana Rae Hendel Jayden Joseph Henderson Samantha Lee Hendler Anelise Annette Hernandez Chad Thomas Himmelback

Kayla Marie Hochadel Samantha Mae Holenstein Edwin Aaron Housler Tristan William Hume Paul Brian Jeras Damien Radu Cash Johnson Joseph Wachowicz Jr. Alexis Nicole Juliano Kavlee Renee Juliano Emily Rain Karaffa Daniel L'vovich Karyazhin Joshua Chester Keenan Erika Michelle Kellar Stephen Phillip Edward Kelly Caelyn Lauren Kelly Julia Marie Catherine Kennedy Dianna Khasanova Megan Danielle Kinney Adison Sophia Klaes Luke Thomas Kolbe Breandan Mathew Kozlowski Annessa Onnolee Kramer Talan Jeffrey Kraska Caitlin Rose Kruck Viktor Kryshtal Zachary Labonte Aidan Aaron Lane Jonathon Aloyes Lemanski Alexzander Joesph Wayne Lentz Zachary Christopher William Lentz Landon Michael Lepsch Nicholas Max Lesmeister Alexis Long Brody James Lyons Quinn Elise Manth Noah Eunseong Matyevich Jamiah David Mayle Kaylie Mae McAndrew Annalysse Seangsolee McAvoy Brenna Lynn McCarley Hannah Jayde McCarley Matthew Shawn McCrossan Lydia Marie McGee Angelina Rose Melchiorre Kelsie Rose Meredith Delaney Marie Mesler Riley Jacob Meyer Henry Burke Millar Brayden Michael Mills Rachel Jenae Minich Alexander Stanislav Mitrofanov Owen Robert Mixon

Gwendolyn Elizabeth Moran Bilal Lachin Mukhtasimov Emily Marie Newson Ariana Rose O'Connell Tyler James Oliver Liam Michael O'Neill Shea Elizabeth O'Rourke Samantha Helvn Ott Shane Robert Painter Brenna Lyn Penfold Elyssa Marie Pennell Maxwell John Peterson Thomas James Polek Camden William Priester Mikayla Grace Privett Bradley Adam Prosser Anthony Michael Putnam Angelina Sienna Ratzel Casey Josephine Reed Serenity Noel Reitz Kaden Michael Herbert Reusch Daniel Lee Riley III Harrison Fenn Roberts Taishaly Nicole Rosario-Rivera Victoria Anne Roy Ella Grace Rover Kylee Jean Russell Scott Robert Russell Landon Joseph Sabol Ahlyssa Marie Sanchez Nicholas Anthony Sandarelli Nathan Charles Schaefer Bryan Michael Scheifla Hayden Anthony Schmitt Isabelle Marie Schrock Taylor Christine Sciandra Sophia Jane Scott Jordan Elizabeth Shaffer

Samantha Marie Shank Kyler Faith Shiesley Ontario Armani Shipp Lee Thomas Alwyn Sholtz Anna Mohamed Shwani Jacob Douglas Skoney Aiden Tobias Smith Tyler Joseph Starich Tyler James Starr Dakota Colton Stefano-Guzenski Taytlyn Nicole Stiehl Ariana Leigh Szabad Jacob Anthony Szlis Lily Carol Testa Lucas Michael Thompson Joshua Mason Thornton Joshua Nicholas Tiedemann Tyler Anthony Tomaszewski Brooke Alexandria Trower Aestarea Lucy Truesdale Savannah Rose Truty Jacob Matthew Tucker Nikolay Viktorovich Tupchik Mark Tupchik May Hindang Vargas Artem Anatolyovich Voloshyn Ella Grace Waliszewski Shelby Donna Walter Reese Lynn Wienckowski Emma Blue Renee Wilbur Cody Lynn Williams-Steele Jovann Nicolette Wilmott Matthew Ronald Woelfle Cameron Elizabeth Wood Julian Richard Wydysh Tara Anne Yanacek Julia Dawn Zaino



#### Spruce Students Hang with Baby Kangaroos

Second-grade students at Spruce Elementary experienced an excitingly educational visit with Niagara Down Under, where they were able to hold two baby kangaroos. It was absolutely incredible for the students to meet the little joeys!





#### **ELA Classes Tour Anne Frank House Virtually**



NTMS 8th grade students studied World War II and the Holocaust in both their Social Studies and ELA classes. As part of this unit, they read The Diary of Anne Frank and wrote personal journals as though they lived during that time period. Mrs. Quinn's ELA classes used our V/R (Virtual Reality) headsets to tour the attic in which Anne Frank and her family lived during the war.

The kids were super excited to integrate this hands-on technology experience with what they'd learned the last several weeks.

### **Special Guests Visit Spruce Elementary School**

A huge shout out to NTPD and K9 Sasha for coming out to support the Spruce Elementary Field Day. Students and staff loved their special visit!



#### Jacks on the Move!

As another school year comes to an end, Jacks on the Move would like to thank the NTHS Student Support Center School Counselors for hosting a Jacks on the Move Signing Day event on Wednesday, May 8th. Jacks on the Move seniors were given the opportunity to announce their post-graduate plans whether it was college, trade school or entering the workforce.

K-12 school counselors hosted district-wide themes to promote awareness, excitement and the promise of a brighter future for all NT students!

Pictured here are some of our high school students declaring their intentions, a Spruce student declaring her dream to be in healthcare and our amazing school counselors!



### NT Recognized for Foreign Exchange Program

North Tonawanda City School District was recently recognized by the U.S. Department of State for promoting mutual understanding, respect and tolerance among future generations of global leaders by supporting the U.S. Department of State's CBYX (Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange), FLEX (Future Leaders Exchange Program) and YES (Youth Exchange and Study Abroad) programs.



Superintendent Greg Woytila and Board of Education President Matthew Kennedy with students Norsadeen Salem (Philippines) and Alexia Dinca (Romania), along with Mrs. Darcy Fesmire, a district host-parent who has hosted numerous exchange students over the years.

Principal Brad Rowles with Artem Denisenko from Uzbekistan

#### Lifeskills Graduate

Congratulations to Zachary Labonte who graduated from the Orleans/Niagara BOCES Lifeskills program. Director of Special Education Programs, Michael Hiller, presented Zachary with his diploma stating "I am so proud of Zachary and what he has achieved."



Zachary and Mr. Hiller at the graduation.

#### **Unified Basketball Wraps Up Their Season**

On May 29th, the Unified Basketball Team ended their season with a year-end celebration event which was held at Niagara University with other NFL schools. The Lumberjack athletes participated in a skills competition and played a game against Lewiston-Porter. Fun was had by all!



#### **First Graders** Say Special Visit Was Just Ducky!

Spruce Elementary's first grader, Jacob (Mrs. Cich's class) and his brother, second grader Peter, shared their fostering experience



by bringing in a couple of cute ducklings their family was fostering!

The students enjoyed their visit by taking turns holding and feeding their new fuzzy, feathered friends.



#### **Fun Run**

Spruce Elementary students, along with their families, loved participating in the annual Fun Run Fundraiser. It was incredibly successful and entertaining!



### **Art Students Wow at Competition**

Art students from NTHS, NTMS, and NTI participated in the first-ever Student Art Competition at Villa Maria College on May 23rd.

Congratulations to:

Grace Gabel – 1st place in the Emerging Artists category Haley Jacobsen – 2nd place in the Intermediate Artists category Reilly Carney – 3rd place in the Advanced Artists category.

"They all did an amazing job," said Art teacher, Karen Knight.









## **Everybody in the Pool!**

Drake Elementary 3rd graders, along with Principal Janet Matyevich, had fun splashing around in the NTI pool for their end of the year field trip.

A special thank you to lifeguards, Max Lesmeister and Harrison Roberts, who made sure to keep everyone safe.

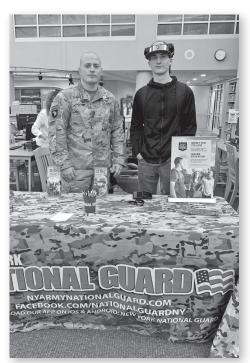




### **First Responder Day**

The NTHS Career Center and School Counselors collaborated to host a "First Responder's Day." A variety of local first responders participated in this special event with informational displays and demonstrations for students to explore the different careers available to them upon graduating from high school.

A special thank you to all those that participated: 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, US Border Patrol, US Air Force, US Army, US Air National Guard, US Army National Guard, US Coast Guard, UB University Police, Department of Homeland Security and the FBI.





### High School Music Students Visit the Big Apple

High School Instrumental teacher, Jason Ferguson and 50 students from the high school band and chorus programs had an amazing time in New York City. Mr. Ferguson stated, "It was the first field trip we have had since COVID, and we made sure the students had a lot of opportunities to really explore the city." Students visited the Edge Observation Deck, Hudson Yards, Rockefeller Center, Times Square, 5th Avenue, Battery Park, Trinity Church/Alexander Hamilton gravesite, Liberty Island/Statue of Liberty and the 9/11 Memorial and Museum. The group also took a dinner cruise on the Hudson River and toured Radio City Music Hall. A highlight of the trip was attending the Broadway performance of Sweeney Todd starring superstars Aaron Tveit and Sutton Foster.





### **A New Tradition Begins!**

In 8th grade, Family and Consumer Science (FACS) students reviewed their hand sewing skills prior to learning how to use a sewing machine. This year, FACS teacher Miss Duchnik, along with her students, decided to partner up with a few of the elementary classrooms at Ohio and Drake to gift the students with new stuffed animals.

This collaborative project required the elementary students to color in templates, then the middle school students made the templates "come to life." At the end of the school year, three middle school students were chosen to accompany administration to deliver the stuffed animals to the classes.

"Thank you to Miss Duchnik for creating this special opportunity, as well as the teachers involved at Drake and Ohio Elementary for welcoming us into your classrooms!" says Assistant Principal Scott Mueller. "We hope to continue this new project tradition in the future!"





NORTH TONAWANDA CITY SCHOOLS 176 Walck Road North Tonawanda, NY 14120

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#### **SEL Continues to Thrive at Spruce Elementary School**

Spruce Elementary Social Worker, Amy Gorman, and School Counselor, Christopher Zon, work together to support students at every grade level. One of the many topics they educate the students on is Social Emotional Learning (SEL). Beginning in Kindergarten and throughout 3rd grade, students engage in activities which provide the necessary skills to reinforce making green choices, engaging in mindfulness, identifying feelings, using coping skills and so much more!

"Being mindful, understanding emotions and learning how to deal with big feelings is essential for students at every level," states Mrs. Gorman and Mr. Zon. "They need these skills to be the best students they can be here, at home and in our community."

