

UPGRADES TO SECURITY

school adds vestibule to entrance

writer nathan chow
designer nathan chow

As our district goes through many changes, the security of the students is still a top priority. Recently, the high school has built a new security vestibule that students have to use if arriving at the school later than 8:15 a.m.

Students with late arrival, or who are just arriving late, must enter the building through the leftmost door at the front entrance, which will lead them into the security vestibule, where they're expected to sign in. This is to record when students are arriving, and is funneling the students into one entrance, making it easier to track.

"The safety vestibule is just one step in a series of processes that are designed to screen visitors from entering our schools, in an effort to keep our students and staff safe," Director of Security for the District Joe Suozzi said.

This new process makes it much easier for the office to track who's coming in. It also reduces the risk of students forgetting to sign in, as they have to do it right away, rather than the previous method, where students would walk through the school to the attendance office to sign in.

"[The security vestibule] doesn't change anything, but it is more organized and helps me to remember to sign into the attendance office," junior Haley Buchman, who has late arrival said. "It's just another way to sign in."

This new vestibule was part of the school levy passed last year, and with the money, the district was able to add a vestibule to each of the elementary, middle and high schools.

"The concept of the safety vestibule came several years ago



Junior Neil H. signs into the school in the security vestibule.

as a recommendation from the Superintendent's Safety Committee, which is made up of security professionals in both the public and private sectors," Suozzi said. "The construction estimates were prepared, tallied and then presented to the voters as part of the latest school levy, which passed last summer."

The school is also planning to add on more security to the vestibule and will be adding an ID system, which will distinguish between students and other visitors. This will make it much easier to track who comes in and out of the schools.

"Each school will be outfitted with an electronic visitor management system, which will further screen visitors by having them present a

photo ID (driver's license), conduct a limited database search and present them with a temporary photo badge, allowing staff to recognize they are an approved visitor," Suozzi said.

The district has taken many precautions for the safety of the students and personnel, and this new addition to the schools is an effort to keep the students safe from harm from unwanted visitors.

"Like any new process, there will be an adjustment period associated with how each school adapts to the new procedures, but know this – we are always looking at ways to try and make our schools as safe as possible for all our students, staff and visitors," Suozzi said.

ASTRONEERS ARE HERE the school welcomes a new logo

writer **marshall medley**
designer **emma clute**

photo credit **emma clute**

This new school year has brought many things. One of the biggest changes at the high school is the new logo. The school's logo was changed, and people have some mixed opinions on the new logo.

The school's new logo features an astronaut. That astronaut is also now the face of the school. Such a significant change is not easy to get used to.

"I'm indifferent to it, but I'd definitely prefer the old logo," sophomore Bobby Drexel said.

The logo is a huge change to the school's culture. Students who are invested in the school such as Drexel may have a hard time adapting to the new change.

The new imagery of the school will take time to get used to. But the meaning is much deeper. Principal Trond Smith explained what the new logo represents.

"[Our goal was] to as develop inclusive and up-to-date imagery," Smith said.

"Our new imagery demonstrates that a Pioneer is an explorer at heart, forging new paths, always looking ahead and seeking new heights. We want to be leaders and innovators as we go confidently into the future," Smith said.

Smith has been with Orange for 11 years and hasn't looked back. He embraces being a Pioneer and likes

the new logo.

A big change like a school's logo is never easy to get used to. One of the biggest questions asked by students was why? Why was a logo that was loved so much by students changed?

"Olentangy Schools' strategic plan includes the goal of establishing a brand identity," Smith said. "To eliminate all trademark infringements, to remove all Native American imagery as well as develop more inclusive and up-to-date imagery."

For a year and a half, teachers, parents and administrators met to discuss this new logo. The new logo represents leaders always looking to better themselves. It represents a true Pioneer.

SHIFT TO ONLINE a change in the office

writer **emma clute**
designer **emma clute**

photo credit **emma clute**

The crowded Student Services office on the first few days of school is a yearly tradition that didn't happen this year. Instead, the process to change, drop or add a class was moved online.

The change to an online schedule request form started at the end of last year due to the pandemic, and it stayed that way until Aug. 30, when most of the initial schedule changes had finished.

"The online form ensured that parents were aware of the schedule change because they were submitting it through their parent PowerSchool Portal," guidance counselor Heath Smith said. "The counseling department is currently looking

into options for students to have the ability to schedule appointments electronically, but we are still troubleshooting with our technology department."

STUDENT SERVICES

The switch was a big change for students who had been used to filling out a paper form, scheduling a meeting through the Student Services office and then meeting with their counselors. Some were worried that the change would set a precedent for a fully online communication with the office staff.

"I don't think going all online is a

good idea," senior Lilianna Cole said. "Having the stability of talking to someone is important, especially when it comes to building a connection with your counselor."

As of right now, Student Services has no plans to switch to an all-online model; they just want to ensure that students have another way to communicate with staff.

"The counseling department does not want to move all requests online. We just want to make sure students know how to reach us via email and make sure we are available. Moving some form submissions, information and communication online are something we will continue to prioritize and implement," Smith said.

The Frontier

MURDER MYSTERY recap of the fall play 'Clue'

writer **rachel lehman**

designer **taylor stewart**

photo credit **katherine moorhead**

The theater program kicked off its first production of the year, which was the play "Clue", based off of the board game and movie. The dates of the play were Sept. 23, 25 and 26.

The seven main characters were invited to a dinner party by an anonymous host and a murder mystery took place and the characters came together to figure out who the killer was amongst them. The play wasn't just a murder mystery, but also a comedy with lots of plot twists that kept it engaging.

"There were a lot of twists, suspense and surprises throughout the show. It was fun to see the audience's reactions to each scene," actress and junior Emilia Martin said.

The audition process for the play took place all the way back in May. They didn't have any rehearsals over the summer. However, a lot of actors and actresses took the time to start

memorizing the script and getting to know the character that they would be playing during that time.

"We started rehearsals the first week of school, Monday through Thursday, and built sets on Saturdays. When we got to the first show, we had longer rehearsals because we needed to add all of the technology to do effects, light and sound," theater director Cathy Swain-Abrams said.

While the actors and actresses were the stars of the show, the contribution that the technology crew makes often goes overlooked. The group of 32 people built and hand painted sets, worked the control board for lights, music and effects and made sure that the hair and makeup of the actors were ready for the show.

"Everything we did was from scratch. It's not like we got a kit of everything we needed for the play. We took our own measurements for

costumes, built all of our pieces of the set and programmed the control board to make sure the cues for the lighting, sound effects, microphones and music happened at the correct time," Swain-Abrams said.

During the show, there were many set changes that happened to mimic the different rooms as well as sound effects and music that matched with what the actors were saying or what was happening more dramatic. Not only that, but practicing lots of choreography to make sure each crew person and actor was where they needed to be.

"As a co-set leader, I built and painted the scenery you see on stage and direct our crew. Our crew comes in every Saturday and during tech week we stay at the school until 9p.m.," junior and co-set lead Madi Patton said.



Cast junior Elijah B, junior Alan D, senior Greyson T, junior Amy H, junior Madisyn D, and senior Allie Z. perform a dress rehearsal on Sept. 20 only a few days before show day.

The Frontier

MEET THE OFFICE STAFF

get to know the faces of the school

writer emma barnhart

designer emma barnhart

The office is a place where the work is nonstop. Dealing with hundreds of students is never easy, but it is an everyday environment for the high school's office staff. It's common to see them as staff members, rather than who they really are as a person. Students and parents don't often get to hear about their lives outside of the school, so here is their opportunity.



CYNTHIA VANDE WATER

Q: What area in the office do you work in and what is the nature of it?

A: "I work with the guidance counselors, and my role is to work with new students coming in, making sure their login works, to help them drop classes, to help with transcripts and just to be the face of the office."

Q: If you didn't work in the office, where would you work and why?

A: "I would probably work with younger children at a hospital as a nurse because I love little kids."

Q: What is your favorite thing to do outside of work? What makes that enjoyable?

A: "I exercise, visit friends and just try to be a helpful neighbor. It's always nice to do the unexpected for somebody."

Q: Where is your favorite place to travel to and why?

A: "Michigan because the weather is perfect, and the scenery reminds me of my province (in Canada)."

Q: What is the best advice that you could give to students?

A: "Take it one day at a time, don't spend too much time thinking about the past when you can spend time learning about it in order to change."



BRIGITTE SINDELDECKER

Q: What area in the office do you work in and what is the nature of it?

A: "I am the building secretary, and I am the assistant to the principal, Mr. Smith."

Q: If you didn't work in the office, where would you work and why?

A: "I would work at the zoo because I love animals."

Q: What is your favorite thing to do outside of work? What makes that enjoyable?

A: "I love to walk my dog because she is my baby."

Q: Where is your favorite place to travel to and why?

A: "I like to travel to the beach to enjoy the sunsets."

Q: What is the best advice that you could give to students?

A: "Be kind."

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If you are with friends or family, put down your phone and be present for those who are taking time to be with you.

-Julie Priest

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JULIE PRIEST

Q: What area in the office do you work in and what is the nature of it?

A: "I work in the main office, and I am the secretary for the assistant principals. I am also in charge of communications, which includes announcements that go on The Juice in the morning, Pioneer Press to parents and the OOHS website."

Q: If you didn't work in the office, where would you work and why?

A: "Anything that has to do with helping people."

Q: What is your favorite thing to do outside of work? What makes that enjoyable?

A: "I like to work out and spend time with my family."

Q: Where is your favorite place to travel to and why?

A: "Every spring break I go to Naples, Florida with my family. It is beautiful there in the spring, and we get to spend time with my parents as well."

Q: What is the best advice that you could give to students?

A: "If you are with friends or family, put down your phone and be present for those who are taking time to be with you."

HOMECOMING

a night to remember

writer emma clute
designer emma clute



Juniors Noah T. and Hailey M.



Sophomore Paige S. pins sophomore Hunter B.'s boutonniere.



Sophomores Maryn Z., Natalie T. and Ellie L.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH & PIONEER PRIDE BARS

SEPTEMBER

Joshua Layne
Jacob Covrett
Ryann Allender
Ainsley Robare
Jordan Sullivan
Annie Mathew
Alexander Johnson
Bella Homorody

PIONEER PRIDE BARS

Manraj Nagra
Nicole Brown
Alex Fomba
Corinne Sampsel
Hanna Peterson
Gauri Naik
Isabel Wilson
Akrem Ramadan
Nathan Speicher
Samar Nagra