

Teacher Appreciation Week 2021

National Honor Society

The following statements were written by National Honor Society members to express their gratitude and undying appreciation for Onteora teachers this year:



“I appreciate the extra work and effort you have all been putting in in order to make sure we learn as much as possible, in the most enjoyable way that is possible in this kind of year.” - Zach Calinda

“Thank you all for your unrelenting dedication and commitment throughout this year. Your hard work, support, and compassion is truly admirable and you have improved the days of so many students. You all are truly amazing.” - Cambria D’Aprile

“I appreciate how understanding the teachers always are. They recognize that we have sometimes chaotic lives outside of school, especially given the circumstances, and I never feel like I can’t speak to one of my teachers when I need extra help.” - Nelson Del Tufo

“Thank you all for your tireless dedication to all of us -- with so much constantly in jeopardy, knowing that you’re all flexible, understanding and supportive is what is making this year possible. We are so grateful for all that you do!” - Joey Driscoll

“I’m endlessly grateful for everything that you all have done throughout this past year and also for your entire careers. The experiences that I’ve had with such amazing teachers has inspired me to want to be one myself, so I cannot thank you all enough for everything you all do.” - Shayne Durkin

“Thank you all so much for the hard work you put in to make this year the best it could be. You all have been so supportive throughout this year, and it wouldn’t have been the same without you!” - Julia Flamenhaft

“My teachers have helped me succeed every step of the way this year, always working to help even as we adjust to our new situation together. I am so grateful for teachers this year. Every nice comment on an assignment or helpful email sticks with me and reminds me of the influence a good teacher can have.” - Sophie Frank

“Up until now, not many teachers have been able to say they’ve taught their students through a pandemic! Yet in a time of unprecedented historical events, you all took care in reassuring us that everything was going to be OK. You faced each day with understanding and warmth, bringing a sense of humanity to a period when we couldn’t even see each other in person. Thank you so much for your unwavering dedication, this past year truly would not have been the same without it.” - Natalie Horberg

“Thank you so much for supporting us during these times :)” - Ava Maki

“I admire how hard you are all working to make this last year such a special one for us. Thank you for letting us know that you are available for any help needed. Thank you for being so wonderful!” - Analie Ingalsbe

“To all teachers, thank you for putting in so much hard work in making this past year feel as normal as possible. I know it hasn’t been easy but you all have adjusted to it so well. Your work hasn’t gone unnoticed. Thank you all so much.” - Ori Grady

“Thank you for all the work you’ve done throughout this year. Knowing that it’s been very stressful, you all have done a fantastic job adjusting and making the best out of every situation. I appreciate you all so much.” - Nicole Lane

“All of your unrelenting positivity through the past year has been really admirable. If not for your positivity and encouragement we wouldn’t have been nearly as successful this year.” - Jessica Zygmunt

“Despite the difficult circumstances, you’ve all managed to keep us going during this year. You’ve managed to keep class interesting and keep us enthusiastic to log on. This year would have been much worse had it not been for everything you’ve done for us, and I really want to thank you all for that.” - Archie Lewis-Harris

“Despite the given circumstances, you all have made it possible for us to keep learning. All the effort that you put in does not go by unappreciated. Thank you for your time, encouragement, and support!” - Citlalli Martinez Valentin

“Thank you all so much for your tireless dedication to getting us all the best education possible, even in the face of extraordinary circumstances. In a year like this, balancing work and life can be incredibly difficult, and all of us truly appreciate every single time a teacher goes the extra mile, even if it doesn’t always seem it.” - Max Mielcarek

“Even though it has been such a difficult year, many teachers have stayed enthusiastic and passionate, and this has inspired so many students to do the same. Many teachers have also been incredibly understanding this year, and I know that all my classmates and I are extremely appreciative of their flexibility.” - Emily Peck

“I am endlessly amazed at teachers’ ability to stay earnest and energetic in the face of great uncertainty. This year teachers have continued to work hard for their students even under conditions that make that difficult. Students appreciate all the incredible work done by teachers.” - Tahlula Potter

“Thank you to all of the teachers for being so understanding this year. Your good spirits and efforts have not gone unnoticed, and they have helped us in keeping a sense of normalcy. Thank you!” - Scarlettte Ragues

“The fact that teachers are able to handle the stress of Coronavirus and teaching at the same time is honestly amazing. Keep doing awesome teachers!” - Elijah Salazar-Garris

“I am so amazed that you all have continued to uphold and foster the tight-knit and incredibly supportive sense of community that is so true to Onteora’s character throughout online learning and the pandemic. I am so inspired by your tenacity, passion, dedication, and undying kindness. I can’t even begin to describe my gratitude for you all.” - Shane Stackpole

“I know this year has proven more difficult than others, so seeing all of you sticking through the inconveniences and maintaining a lookout for your students is admirable. For that I am thankful for all you guys.” - James Stala

“Thank you for being so kind and supportive throughout this tough year. I understand how hard it was to manage, but I’m incredibly grateful that I have such an amazing community of teachers to support me! Each and everyone of you is inspirational!” - Maggie Turck

“I cannot believe how flexible all of the staff have been this year! Without their compassionate understanding and willingness to work together with the students this year, it would’ve been a very rough year. All of you have done a great job to make this year feel as normal and hopeful as before!” - Dylan Wiswall

“Thank you so much for putting so much effort into making sure we can learn effectively this year! This year has not been easy, but your continued support and understanding has helped us all adjust better to this difficult time.” - Alana Wood