

## Oak Hills Student Making A Difference

By Brianna Schneider

Oak Hills High School in Cincinnati, Ohio is a pretty large school; most people don't know each other names and may never know their names. When students graduate they may never leave a legacy, while some may be honored and remembered forever. Fortunately, I got the opportunity to get close to some of the people that are going to forever be remembered. One of those people is Emma Sedlack. Sedlack is a Senior at Oak Hills High School and will graduate in May 2020. She is involved in many activities such as Student Council Executive board, National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, and Key Club. Sedlack is in the top 10 percent of her graduating class and dreams of going to the University of Notre Dame for college. Her dreams for the future include becoming a Campaign Manager or a Psychologist.

Before the start of Sedlack's Sophomore year, she had moved in Cincinnati from South Bend Indiana. Sedlack had come to Oak Hills High School knowing no one, she quickly adapted and was very open to making new friends. A couple months after moving here, her Step Dad Scott Bischoff is on the school board and heard information about Hope Squad. After learning the information, Sedlack grew fond of helping it become a thing at Oak Hills High school. Sedlack and 2 other people "presented to the school, found funding, and found teachers that would administer it." In Sedlack Words, "Hope squad is a mental organization that allows students to be trained in recognizing signs of suicide." Hope squad allows the students at Oak Hills to feel they are in a safe environment and have the courage to speak up when things are going so well. Sedlack's Junior year was the year they finally were able to put Hope Squad together. Picking the students was difficult because they weren't sure who was right for the job or who would even want to do it. The teachers that administered Hope Squad sent out a survey to the student body, and told the students to pick 3 people out of the students they trusted the most as well as teachers.

Starting Hope Squad was more important to Sedlack than just saying that she was able to start something and put it on her college applications to make her look good. The end goal of starting hope squad is "to say that I have made a difference in the school culture. Even if people don't remember my name, I hope that hope squad is still around and has made a positive impact in the past 10 years." Hopefully, the members in Hope Squad now will be able to carry on the legacy that she started when she started such a wonderful group that could potentially help many people. After talking to one of the fellow members that helped Sedlack start Hope Squad, Sarah Bussard said, "Even though Sedlack came here sophomore year, she was very outgoing from the start. Sedlack did with helping start hope squad and getting more members and making people aware of the cause. She did everything she had to do get things done and that's what I admire most about her". To all of her friends she is known as hard working, very intelligent and kind. Emma Sedlack truly wants to make a difference in other people's life other than her own.

