

THIS IS ONEIDA THIRTEEN

Thirteen has always been my favorite number. There is a road sign 13 miles from our campus that reads, “Oneida 13.” I’ve always loved that sign because I wore the number 13 during my basketball-playing days. Most of my other family members wore it as well. As I write this article, I am looking at my number 13 Oneida jersey on my office wall and am amused to even think what it would look like if I tried to put that thing on. I would like to think jerseys shrink drastically over time, but I think we all know that isn’t true. Some hotels and larger buildings will “skip” the thirteenth floor because the number is thought to be bad luck. I don’t believe in luck. I believe in preparation and trusting the Lord’s design and plans.

In my time leading Oneida, I have been asked pretty regularly what my vision or goals are for the school. As an old coach, I love setting goals for my team. I’d like to share 13 goals with you. Please pray the Lord will guide us as we do our best to implement these goals.



Larry A. Gritton, Jr.
OBI President

1. I want Oneida to help as many kids as possible. I don’t know exactly what that number is, but I do know there is a need now more than ever for a place like Oneida. Young people need hope and there is hope at Oneida because Jesus is here.
2. I want Oneida to be the greatest school in our state, country, and world, but most of all to be the greatest school in God’s kingdom.
3. I want Oneida to have the greatest and most loving faculty and staff of any school or ministry in this world.
4. I want Oneida to educate students for “time and eternity”, and to prepare our graduates and even those who don’t stay with us until graduation to reach this world for Jesus.
5. I want Oneida to reach and impact our local community and students in a way it never has before.
6. I want Oneida to connect, reconnect, and stay connected with alumni and friends.
7. I want every kid who passes through this little school called Oneida to meet Jesus on our campus each and every day.
8. I want our alumni to remember their experience here and tell the world about it.
9. I want Oneida to be a place where people can feel the spirit of the Lord when they step foot on our campus.
10. I want Oneida to love the lovable and the unlovable.
11. I want Oneida to be a place where Jesus is ministered unto because we minister to the sick, hungry, and lost.
12. I want Oneida to be “home” for all who have called it their “home away from home”.
13. I want Oneida to be all the Lord wants it to be each and every day.

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