



OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL

MAY 1, 2024
VOL. 2023-24, NO.18

OHS NEWSLETTER. Published on the 1st and 15th each month.

IMPORTANT DATES

NHS INDUCTION

May 8; 6:30 PM

SENIOR AWARDS

May 13; 7PM

PROM

May 18; 8PM-11PM

POST PROM

May 18-19; 11PM-2AM

SENIOR SERVICE PROJECT

May 21

Senior's Last Day

May 23

IMPORTANT LINKS

click these:

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[BOND UPDATES](#)

[PARENT GROUP NEWSLETTER](#)

[PARENT GROUP MEETING](#)

[MINUTES](#)

NEXT MEETING:

MAY 24, 2024

OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY,

We have an important **BOND UPDATE** for you. We are fortunate the voters have approved bond funds for a secured vestibule at Okemos High School. **Starting on May 20th, the office will be relocated to a classroom by the student athletic entrance.**

Our normal office entrance will not be available for **ANY STUDENTS, PARENTS, OR VISITORS.** The reason for this change during the school year is that we need to set up our temporary office so work can begin as soon as possible at the end of the year.

These changes will exist starting on May 20th until probably around Winter Break of 2024. **In short, starting on May 20th, ALL parents and students MUST use the athletic entrance as the Jolly Road entrance will be CLOSED.**

We are excited for these changes and appreciate your support!

Regarding **COMMENCEMENT** on May 29th: ALL are welcome. There is no ticket limit! I'll send more specific information next week. We are busy preparing for our Seniors' last big event. It's going to be a great time. We hope to see you there!

As always, thank you for partnering with us. We appreciate your support! Take care and reach out if you need anything.

Dr. Kemsley

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COUNSELING INFORMATION

Monthly Counselor Newsletter

Please access the May Counseling Newsletter here.

Cap & Gown Donation

Counselors are accepting cap & gown donations from the Class of 2021 to 2023 to be used by economically disadvantaged students. Please drop them off in the main office if you would like to donate them.

Senior Decision Form

Seniors-do you want to share your post-high school plans? Would you like those plans featured on the Class of 2024 Decisions Instagram page? Then fill out this form to be featured!

From the office of DEI Director Dr. Lara Slee

April is National Arab American Heritage Month. More than 3.5 Americans have Arab roots, with ancestries traced to 22 countries in the Middle East and North Africa, including Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Palestine, Morocco, Iraq, Jordan, Yemen, Bahrain, Tunisia, Algeria, Sudan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and others (Source: 2020 U.S. Census).

The Arab American National Museum is located in Dearborn, Michigan. You can access their core galleries online, including Contributions from the Arab World, Coming to America, Living in America, and Making an Impact.

Important NHS Dates

- The Induction Ceremony is May 8th at 6:30pm in the OHS Auditorium - all new inductees and officers must attend
- If you are interested in applying to be a NHS officer next year, you must apply using the form in Google Classroom by April 22nd
- There is a mandatory NHS Chapter meeting on May 29th at 7:15am in the Auditorium. You must email Mrs. Fletcher 24 hours in advance if you are unable to attend. Graduated members do not attend, new Inductees do.
- All members must sign the Bylaws and pay the \$10 dues yearly. See Google Classroom for more information. Speak to Mrs. Fletcher if you face financial difficulties.

News from the OEF

Okemos Education Foundation APPLE Awards

Teacher/staff appreciation week is just around the corner, May 6-10, followed by the end of the school year, just one month later. Many families choose to give a small gift to a teacher, support staff or administrator as a thank you for the work they have done with their child/school. As we have done in the past, the Okemos Education Foundation is offering APPLE Awards to honor these teachers, support staff and administrators. This is a wonderful and long lasting way to say 'thank you'. For a \$20 donation to the OEF, families can purchase a 5x7 color, personalized certificate for their honoree. An APPLE award recognizes those who show an Amazing Performance in Promoting Learning and Education (APPLE)...teachers, para-professionals, support staff, administrators...who has touched the life of your student? Proceeds from these help the Okemos Education Foundation give financial support to all seven of our schools as well as those at Community Education. To order an APPLE Award, visit www.oefsite.org/apple. Thank you for recognizing an Okemos educator and for your support of the OEF.

Annual Okemos Education Foundation Golf Fundraiser

Last year the OEF hosted its first annual golf fundraiser. It was a wonderful success with positive feedback from sponsors and participants alike. This year the OEF will host this event on June 1, 2024, again at College Fields in Okemos. This is a great community event as well as a fundraiser for the Foundation as they work to support excellence and innovation in the Okemos schools. The event includes continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, and dinner during the awards presentation. There is also a 50/50 raffle along with many community business gift certificates and even a chance to win \$10,000! This is a scramble so golfers of all levels are welcome. We invite you to join us on Saturday, June 1, as a sponsor/participant. For more information please visit oefgolffundraiser.com or email questions to chair@oefsite.org

Commitment to Excellence Awards

Each fall, the OEF recognizes excellence in the district by honoring classroom staff, support staff and a volunteer at our awards banquet. We invite parents to nominate someone they feel exhibits excellence within the district. It is important to note that the nomination should provide evidence of excellence based on what the person does for all students. Information on each of these awards can be found at oefsite.org. Nomination forms should be sent electronically to grants@oef.org by June 30, 2024. Any questions may be addressed to chair@oefsite.org

**Junior and Senior
Great Gatsby
2024 Prom**

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024
8-11 pm, You must enter before 9pm, no re-entry

EAGLE EYE GOLF CLUB
15500 Chandler Rd, Bath, MI 48808

APPETIZERS/DESSERTS ONLY
No dinner provided

**NO BAGS | NO SOPHOMORE/FRESHMAN |
JUNIOR/SENIOR GUESTS ALLOWED**
Guest forms due May 6th, School ID to enter

Post Prom TICKETS \$45
SOLD APRIL 26 -MAY 10TH
ONLINE ONLY
NO REFUNDS

- 11pm - 2am
- Tickets \$25
- Enter by 12am
- Casual
- Games, food, inflatables, and more
- Prom attendance NOT required for Post Prom

SCAN ME

COMMUNITY NEWS

Compete for a Cause

On Saturday, May 4th, the Okemos Girls Soccer program is returning to the annual Compete For A Cause game! In recent years, this event has been canceled due to COVID-19. Now, they've worked hard for months to return to the successful fundraiser for pediatric cancer research. Donate to the non-profit by bringing your whole family to the OHS soccer stadium for the JV game at 5:30 and then the varsity game at 7:00. You will be able to participate in the festivities like the silent auction, 50/50 raffles, tattoo booths, and purchase/wear the purple Compete for a Cause t-shirt to support mid-Michigan families and the cancer survival mission! The spirit week for students to participate in is attached.

SPIRIT WEEK
COMPETE FOR
A CAUSE


COME AND SUPPORT
MAY 4TH
JV @ 5:30
VARSIY @ 7

#SOCKOUT SUICIDE

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024



OHS ACTION's annual #SockOutSuicide campaign raises awareness and starts important discussions about suicide prevention and mental health. On May 17, Meridian Township community members are encouraged to wear fun, brightly colored socks and join OHS ACTION in taking the #SockOutSuicide pledge:

NEED COLORFUL SOCKS?

#SockOutSuicide partner Playmakers will hold a special sock sale in advance of May 17. Playmakers will also hold a Fun Run 5K on May 16 at 6:00 pm to raise awareness for suicide prevention. No registration necessary.

BY PARTICIPATING IN #SOCKOUTSUICIDE, I PLEDGE TO:

- Seek help or call 988 if I am having self-harming thoughts.
- Encourage others to seek help from a professional if they are struggling.
- Call 988 or 911 if I think someone is in danger of self-harm.

EVENT PARTNERS:



OHS Parent Group 05.01.24 Newsletter Updates:

- Parent Group's last general meeting is on Friday, May 24th. Voting for the 2024-2025 Parent Group Executive Board will take place at this meeting. All OHS parents/guardians in attendance gets to vote. We are taking nominations for the 2024-2025 Board positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer). If you are interested in being on the Board and would like more information, please email us at ohsparentgroupinfo@gmail.com. Please join us on May 24th at 9 am in the Counseling office classroom, located on the 2nd floor at OHS. Please sign in at the main office before joining the meeting.
- **Post Prom General Information:**
 - Post Prom takes place at Okemos High School immediately following Prom on Sat., May 18th, 11pm-2am.
 - Tickets will be available for purchase April 26 – May 10, **online pre-sale only**. All sales are final – no refunds. The following link to purchase Prom and Post Prom tickets will be live on April 26th: <https://okemosk12.revtrak.net/hs/hs-prom/#/list>
 - Post Prom tickets cost \$25/person.
 - Must check in at the Student Lot entryway by 12 pm with school ID/pictured ID. No re-entry.
 - Only 11th and 12th graders are allowed to attend, same for guests. (Same for Prom)
 - 11th and 12th grade non-OHS guests must submit a Guest Form (available in the Main Office) no later than May 6th. (Same for Prom/only one Guest Form needed for both events) Please note: A non-OHS guest must take the Guest Form to their school for verification by their school's administrator. This takes time, so plan accordingly. Do not purchase a guest ticket until the completed form has been submitted to the OHS Main office since **there are no refunds.**
 - Prom attendance is not required to attend Post Prom.
 - No bags allowed. (Same for Prom)
 - This is a casual event. Attire is casual and comfortable. There will be games, inflatables, food, giveaways, and more!
- **CALLING ALL PARENTS/GUARDIANS!** Please check out our 2 signups for the Post Prom event:
 - To donate prizes for the Giveaway:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949A8AC22A6FDC25-48832850-post>
 - To volunteer to work at Post Prom and/or donate food:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949A8AC22A6FDC25-48832861-post>

These are the ways in which you can contribute to Parent Group events and activities:

- Volunteer to staff an event and/or donate supplies as needed throughout the year.
- Donate directly to OHS Parent Group. Checks payable to OHS Parent Group can be dropped off at the school’s main office. Please label the envelope “Parent Group”.
- Kroger Community Rewards: Our charity name is Okemos H.S. Parent Group (EH042). Parent Group earns at no added cost to you, but you must link us to your card first, online or in person at Kroger.
- RevTrak: [HS Parent Group | Okemos Public Schools \(revtrak.net\)](https://www.revtrak.net/HSParentGroup|OkemosPublicSchools). Use this link and donate through the school’s online payment processing system.

You can email us at OHSParentGroupInfo@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook at “[Okemos High School Parent Group.](#)”

Meetings take place at 9 am in the Counseling classroom at OHS on the following Fridays:
 Last meeting May 24, 2024
 (Vote for new 2024-2025 Board positions)

Thank you for your support!



Welcome Week 2024-2025

<p><u>Bennett Woods Elementary Open House</u> August 14, 2024 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm</p>	<p><u>Cornell Elementary Open House</u> August 14, 2024 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm</p>	<p><u>Hiawatha Elementary Open House</u> August 15, 2024 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm</p>	<p><u>Okemos Public Montessori Open House</u> August 15, 2024 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm</p>
<p><u>Kinawa 5-6 School Kick Start</u> August 15, 2024 10:00 am - 3:00 pm</p>		<p><u>Chippewa Middle School Kick Start</u> August 15, 2024 9:00 am - 2:00 pm</p>	
<p><u>Okemos High School</u></p> <p>Kick Start August 14, 2024 9:00 am - 2:00 pm</p> <p>Open House August 22, 2024 Parent Meeting: 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm Open House: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm</p>		<p>The following OPS resources will be on-site to answer any questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Health Team- all buildings • Food Service- all buildings • Transportation- K-6 buildings (not OPM) 	