



OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL

MAY 15, 2024
VOL. 2023-24, NO.19

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

IMPORTANT DATES

PROM

May 18; 8PM-11PM

POST PROM

May 18-19; 11PM-2AM

SENIOR SERVICE PROJECT

May 21

SENIOR'S LAST DAY

May 23

SEMESTER TWO FINALS

1st & 2nd Hours; June 3

3rd & 4th Hours; June 4

5th & 6th Hours; June 5

IMPORTANT LINKS

click these:

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[BOND UPDATES](#)

[PARENT GROUP NEWSLETTER](#)

[PARENT GROUP MEETING](#)

[MINUTES](#)

NEXT MEETING:

MAY 24, 2024

OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY,

TWO QUICK REMINDERS:

MAIN OFFICE: Starting May 20th, the Jolly Road/Main Office entrance will be CLOSED. All students and parents will need to use the Hulett Road entrance by the gym. Our temporary main office will be near the gym until (probably) 2025 as our new secure vestibule is built.

COMMENCEMENT: May 29th. Breslin Center. Doors open at 6. No tickets or guest limit. All are welcome!

Hello everyone,

This is a super busy time of year for us (and you). The students are doing a wonderful job, especially our seniors! They have just six days left now, which is pretty amazing to think about.

I hope you all are doing well. Please reach out if you need anything. Take care and enjoy your day!

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.

SPECIAL THANKS

We wanted to send you a heartfelt thank you to the Okemos Education Foundation for their grant to purchase supplies for our art classes at OHS. As a result of their generosity, the Art department purchased three painting easels, 19 frames, eight tabletop easels, and three art display pedestals. The benefits of this grant will be utilized for years to come. Thank you again for all you do for our district and for supporting our visual arts program at Okemos High School.



Important NHS Dates

- 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.

Attention OHS Families

The Okemos High School Math Department has lost a lot of calculators this year.

Please look around your homes for calculators that belong to the school.

They may have the schools name or a teacher's name written somewhere on the calculator.

But it could also have worn off.

They may look like any of these calculators.



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

COMMUNITY NEWS

Okemos Public Schools


WHAT THE HEALTH TEAM DOES FOR STUDENTS

Care coordination for students with healthcare needs.		Create healthcare plans and support needs.
Support with student mental health.		Provide mental health education resources.
Update Medical Management Plans.		Support with medical action plans.
Provide Covid testing upon request.		Promote take home tests for individual testing.
Provide leadership and consultation for health issues.		Communicate communicable diseases.
Provide student health fairs.		Provide families with community resources.
Healthy lifestyle education.		Offer hand washing trainings.

Scan here to learn more about the health team.  Or visit: okemosk12.net 

#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:    

Does your child need help with their mental health?

Okemos Public Schools has partnered with Child and Family Charities to provide a mental health clinic within Okemos High School. This opportunity is made possible because of the Expanding, Enhancing Emotional Health (E3) grant through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Adolescent Health Center Division. The clinic will provide on-site comprehensive mental health services from mild to moderate severity of need. There will be a full-time therapist at the OHS clinic five days a week and will be able to serve all OPS youth ages 5 to 21 years.

This is not a free service. Many insurance plans are accepted by Child and Family Charities, and there is a sliding fee scale for those without insurance. If the insurance co-pay or fee is a hardship, Child and Family Charities will work with you to find a solution.

If you're interested in services for your student, please complete this referral form. [Enhancing Emotional Health referral form](#)

If you have additional questions, please contact Sana Sumbal, LLMSW, Emotional Health Therapist (sana@childandfamily.org, 269-261-0099), or Dr. Lara Slee, Director of Diversity Equity, and Inclusion (lara.slee@okemosk12.net, 517-706-5011). You can also find more information about E3 services on the OPS web site.

OHS Parent Group 05.15.24 Newsletter Updates:

Post Prom General Information:

- Post Prom takes place at Okemos High School immediately following Prom on Sat., May 18th, 11pm-2am. Please line up outside the Student Lot doors before 11 pm.
- Must check in at the Student Lot entryway by 12 pm with school ID/pictured ID. No re-entry.
- No bags allowed.
- This is a casual event. Attire is casual and comfortable. There will be games, inflatables, food, giveaways, and more!

One more night to sign up! Sign ups will close on Thurs., May 16th, at approximately 3pm.

- Please check out our 2 signups for the Post Prom event:
 - o To donate prizes or money for the Giveaway:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949A8AC22A6FDC25-48832850-post>
 - o To volunteer to work at Post Prom and/or donate food:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949A8AC22A6FDC25-48832861-post>

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 get 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. Don't forget to sign in at the main office before joining the meeting.

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). 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](https://www.facebook.com/OkemosHighSchoolParentGroup)."

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!

<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) 	