



Oak Creek High School

Knightly News

Building Successful Futures Together

January 2017

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Michael Read
Principal

Ms. Sue Thompson
Associate Principal

Ms. Stacey McKendry
Associate Principal

Ms. Kimberly Leannais
Associate Principal

Mr. Chris Weiss
Associate Principal

Mr. Scott Holler
Athletic/Activities Director

CONTACT INFO:

Main Office;
768-6210

Attendance:
768-6124/768-6125

Guidance:
768-6105/768-6106

Athletic/Activities:
768-6108/768-6138

"Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow." Albert Einstein

The start of a New Year is a time to look forward with optimism and hope in the promise of what the future can bring. On behalf of the entire staff here at Oak Creek High School we wish everyone new dreams, new hope and much success and happiness in 2017. For the students that we educate and serve harnessing and utilizing that hope in the form of goal setting, building confidence, demonstrating resiliency and working hard to achieve their goals is a daily mission that our educators engage in with students every day. Dreams can only be actualized through our daily efforts to achieve them.

For many of our students the conclusion of the semester can be a stressful time. With all the deadlines, projects and exams to study for it's easy for students to become overwhelmed. I ask that parents speak with their children to assure that they can manage and balance their complicated lives. I have found that often students are reluctant to speak about the challenges they face in managing academic, extracurricular, social and personal demands, unfortunately, only addressing these events when they become overly problematic. If you feel your child needs assistance please contact our schools counselors, our administrators and our student support services to assist your child. Please also remember that Oak Creek High School offers extended support services through Aurora Health Care for our students and families. Our students safety and health is our number one priority here at OCHS.



I hope you had the opportunity to visit the high school to view the artistic paintings, sketchings and renderings from our students on the evening of January 11th during the Oak Creek High School Winter Gallery Night Art Show. The wall of art is a visual tribute to the talents and abilities of our students enrolled in our art program. Having the ability to walk out in the hall and see such examples of beauty and skill awakens your sense of possibilities and wonderment.

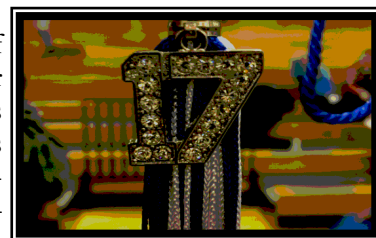
Every January there are two events that warm my heart and help me to sustain my sanity during the cold and snowy days of winter. The Festival of Bands performances which will be here at Oak Creek High School on Saturday, January 14th at 2:30pm and again at 5:00pm and the Festival of the Choirs performance on January 19th at 7:00pm. These performances provide the community with the opportunity to witness the promise and potential of all of our students who attend the schools of Oak Creek and participate in our **AMAZING** band and choir programs. These performances celebrate the hard work and accomplishments of all our students from kindergarten to those who are on the crest of graduation. Please come to the high school and observe these amazing performances by our students under the tutelage of our esteemed educators. I guarantee that not only will your head and feet be moving, but your spirit will also soar!

January also offers us the opportunity to celebrate those students who have worked and attained the necessary credits to graduate from Oak Creek High School at the conclusion of this semester. To our early graduates I hope that you utilize life's most precious commodity: time. Seek your passion and purpose whether it be employment or to continue an educational path

(Continued on Page 2)


so that you can take further steps to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to be a contributing citizen of your community, this country and the world. Congratulations to the following 39 students and we look forward to seeing you at our graduation ceremony on June 10, 2017: Kiara Alvarez, Elijah Apfel, Olivia Barajas, Sydney Baumann, Christina Bord, Devin Casarez, Sezennur Cifcioglu, Sarah Dorgay, Victoria Dzibinski, Alex Erstad, Jeanne Fernanda Ferreira de Souza, Rebecca Fredrick, Rachel Freuden, Alexandra Gonzalez, Shannon Hackett, Iyad Ismail, Nathan Jarrett, Joshua Knier, Jacob Kottowski, Julia Koutalis, Mya Kubiak, Abdul Majid, Jesus Mancinas, Alexander Morales-Talavera, Austin Morey, Ashley Neumann, Michael Nowakowski, Ashlyn Pondikati, Aleksei Popek, Jasmine Rodriguez, Jasmine Rodriguez, Alana Sayeg, Brian Schmidt, Skylar Sustachek, Joshua Tomaich, Rachael Torgersen, Timothy Villwock, Zekeyra Weatherspoon, Nathan Wichmann. Thank you for your contribution to Oak Creek High School during your years here. Please check the district website for updates and publications related to graduation. Best wishes.

Speaking of graduation, I'm proud to announce that the Oak Creek Graduating class of 2017 will hold their commencement services on June 10, 2017 at 12:00 noon at Miller Park. This ceremony celebrates the commitment and accomplishments of all our students as they prepare to embark on the next journey of their lives and learning beyond the halls and walls of Oak Creek High School. This is also a celebration of all of our dedicated educators and other educational stakeholders who have worked for years to guide and support our students to this magnanimous day.



OAK CREEK KNIGHTS
GRADUATE WITH HIGH CREDENTIALS

- Earned a cumulative GPA of 2.8 or higher
- Completed Algebra II w/Trig with a grade of C or higher
- Completed an Advanced Placement course
- Maintained a 90% attendance rate yearly
- Earned three or more college credits
- Earned an ACT composite score of 23 or higher
- Completed an occupational concentration
- Earned a professional certificate or licensure



The announcement of graduation for the class of 2017 in January represents our initial steps in saying goodbye to this class of wonderful and successful seniors. The dichotomy of this announcement is that January also provides us the opportunity to welcome the incoming class of 2021 to their future home at Oak Creek High School. On the evening of January 12th, at our annual Open House for incoming freshmen, we had the fantastic opportunity to meet and greet the class of 2021. These new Knights are eager and excited to start the next stage in their educational journey. These new Knights and their families had the opportunity to meet with the educators who will assist them as they navigate the path of obtaining high credentials during their high school years.

This history setting Class of 2021 will be the first to occupy the new Ninth Grade Center of Oak Creek High School. The high school will now have two buildings with one heart and purpose; *WORKING TOGETHER TO ENGAGE, CHALLENGE, AND INSPIRE EVERY STUDENT EVERY DAY.* We are extremely grateful to all our parents and community members who have provided the resources for our students to be educated in the new Ninth Grade Center. This truly will be an amazing educational facility and it demonstrates this community's passion and commitment to education.



We all get the exact same 365 days. The only difference is what we do with them.
Hillary DePiano

At the start of this parent letter I wrote about students setting goals to help move them along the pathway to accomplish their academic and career aspirations. This year we have focused on increasing our students level of choice, voice and academic engagement. Part of this improvement is to give students more ownership in the selection of their courses and to assist them in the selection of their career paths. In many of your child's classes they have been setting academic achievement goals with their teachers. To assist us in this process, parents, if you have the opportunity to spend a little time with your child to set some academic goals for the second semester it would be greatly appreciated. A quality improvement tool that our teachers and students have begun to use this year is a PDSA cycle, **Plan-Do-Study-Act**. This continuous improvement model can be used in various capacities, examples would be, say if you decided your New Year's resolution is to save more of your income to be able to take a lavish vacation or to live a more healthy lifestyle.

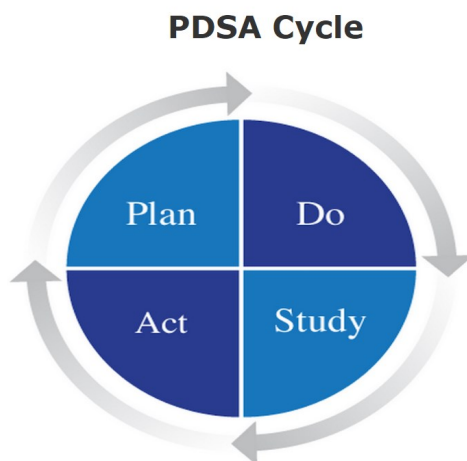
(Continued on Page 3)

What is the goal for improvement?

- Changes
- Strategies
- Timeframe

Do you need to modify your plan?

- Add additional strategies
- Adapt new interventions
- Modify goal?



Implement plan and what changes are you observing?

- Evaluate Data
- Resources Needed
- Supports to be successful

Reflections of outcomes and

- Evaluate successes surprises and failures.
- Determine if change needed
- Learning

This continuous improvement model speaks to our purpose in assuring that we the educators continuously get better as learners so that we can serve our learners here at Oak Creek High School at the capacity the world demands.

*Let our New Year's resolution be this: we will be there for one another
as fellow members of humanity, in the finest sense of the word.*

Goran Persson

Happy New Year!

Today and always, It's Great to be a Knight!

Michael Read, Principal

THE NITTY-GRITTY ON GRIT

Grit—the ability to stick to something even when faced with difficulties—is considered a cornerstone for success in school and on the job. Consider these strategies for developing grit in your child.

PRACTICE WITH PURPOSE.

Breaking tasks into smaller chunks will let your teen pay attention to details in ways she might not otherwise. A softball player could practice her stride one week and her swing the next. Or a musician might play parts of a song out of order, even backward, until she gets the notes right.

DO WHAT YOU LOVE

It is much easier to persevere when your teen enjoys what she's doing. Have her cultivate grit-related traits, such as maintaining focus and finishing what she starts, by pursuing the things she's interested in. Then, show interest in *her* interests. Ask questions, praise her effort (not her talent), and offer help where possible. Once she understands what it means to “give her all” in the things she loves, that effort can carry over into other areas of her life.

ACT and WorkKeys Tests and AP Exams

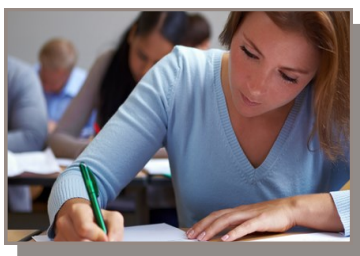
On February 28, 2017 all Juniors in the state of Wisconsin will be taking the ACT plus Writing test. On March 1, 2017 all Juniors in the state of Wisconsin will be taking the WorkKeys test. These tests are required by the state of Wisconsin to gauge student learning and college/career readiness and they are mandatory.

Oak Creek High School will be running a block schedule for all students to provide quiet testing conditions within the building.

ACT Test

The class schedule for Tuesday:

7:30-9:15am	1st Hour class (9th, 10th, 12th Grades)
9:20-11:05am	2nd Hour class (9th, 10th, 12th Grades)
11:10-12:00pm	5th Hour Class Lunch/Advisory (9th, 10th, 12th Grade)
12:05-12:55pm	6th Hour REMEMBER it is 6B the 6A For 11th and 12th grades ONLY FOR THIS DAY
1:00-2:45pm	3rd Hour class for everyone



WorkKeys Test

The class schedule for Wednesday,

March 1, 2017

7:30-9:15am	4th Hour (9th, 10th, 12th Grade)
9:20-11:05am	7th Hour (9th, 10th, 12th Grade)
11:10-12:00pm	5th Hour Class or Lunch/Advisory (9th, 10th, 12th Grade)
12:05-12:55pm	6th Hour Class or Lunch/Advisory
1:00-2:45pm	8th Hour Class for everyone

AP EXAMS

The AP exam registration window opened on Monday, January 9, 2017, and closes on Friday, February 17, 2017. Students should log onto the Total Registration website to register for exams. Every AP teacher has the Total Registration information and process to share with students. All students taking AP classes must take the AP exam. Payments are due Monday, February 20, 2017. A late charge of \$10 per exam will be charged after that date. AP exams begin on May 1st and continue through May 12th.

Please Note . . .



Saturday, January 19, 2017

**District Festival of Choirs,
7:00 pm**

Monday, January 23, 2017

Inservice Teacher Day—No School for Students

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

**Inservice Teacher Workday-No School for Students,
Possible Snow Make-up Day #1**

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

3rd Quarter Begins

Saturday, February 4, 2017

Winter Formal Dance (Aux. Gym)

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Parent Informational Meeting, 9:00 am

Thursday thru Saturday, February 23 thru 25, 2017

Spring Musical, 7:00 pm

Sunday, February 26, 2017

Spring Musical, 2:00 pm

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

ACT + Writing Test (Grade 11 only)

Wednesday, March 1, 2017

ACT Work Keys (Grade 11 only)

Saturday, March 4, 2017

Choral Winter concert 7:00 pm (Aux Gym)

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

Parent Informational Meeting, 9:00 am

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:30 pm

Thursday, March 9, 2017

2017 Taste of Oak Creek

Friday, March 10, 2017

**No School-Vacation Day; Possible snow Make-up
Day #2**

Saturday, March 18, 2017

OCHS Band Concert (Aux. Gym)

Winter Formal

Saturday, February 11, 2017
from 7:00pm-10:00pm

Cost: \$10 (Tickets sold during
lunch Feb. 6-10)

Remember: No jeans!

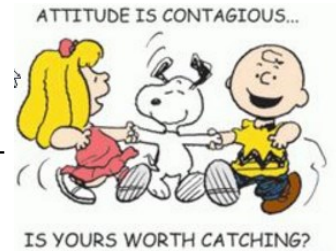


THE OCHS LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER HAS A
WEBSITE FOR STUDENT'S RESEARCH NEEDS.
STUDENTS CAN ACCESS THE RESEARCH
DATABASES FROM SCHOOL AND HOME.
VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

[OCHS Webpage > Students > OCHS Library](#)

FOCUS ON THE POSITIVE

Complimenting your teenager can create good feelings between the two of you. It can also help balance out times when you have to give "negative" attention to correct or discipline her. Try offering specific praise when it's warranted ("I'm proud of how hard you worked on your flute solo").



Call 768-6210 ext 3831 for more information & tickets

Fly by Night

Thursday, February 23rd
Friday, February 24th
Saturday, February 25th
At 7pm

Sunday, February 26th
At 2pm
Oak Creek Highschool



Written By:
Will Connolly, Michael Mitnick, Kim Rosenstock