



Oak Creek High School

The Knightly News

Building Successful Futures Together

September 2016 Issue

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Associate Principal

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Welcome Back!

“What do we teach our children?... We should say to each of them; Do you know what you are? You are a marvel. You are unique... You may become a Shakespeare, a Michelangelo, a Beethoven. You have the capacity for anything.”

Pablo Casals

It is with this hope and the eternal spirit of optimism that I, on behalf of all those who serve and educate your children, at Oak Creek High School, welcome you to the start of the 2016-2017 school year. Being in the building all summer, it becomes just that, a building. It only comes to life as a place of hope, learning and future aspirations when our staff and students return.

We the educators, custodial professionals and food service personnel are all excited to have our students back in our classrooms and filling our hallways with their energy and enthusiasm for learning and a sense of community.

As we strive daily to live our **New District's Mission Statement; Working together to engage, challenge and inspire every student every day.**

- We **engage** our students with exceptional learning experiences and caring support.
- We **challenge** our students to set and achieve ever higher goals.
- We **inspire** our students to think critically, collaborate, communicate, and create.

As the Principal of Oak Creek High School, I can honestly say that I have never been prouder of our educators who engaged in challenging and extensive learning this summer. It started during the first week of June and continued throughout the summer months. We evaluated our professional practices and questioned ourselves as to if we were doing all that we could do to assure that our students have a quality education that prepares them for a rewarding and successful life in the 21st century. The mandate that all children must be career, college and global citizenship ready pulsed through our hearts and minds as we engaged in difficult conversations and started to develop plans of actions to assure that we accomplish these higher educational challenges and standards. I can assure you that this work will continue throughout the school year as we take strides towards academic excellence and greatness here at Oak Creek High School. Thank you educators for your sacrifice and commitments. It is a pleasure and an honor to engage in the most challenging and rewarding work in the world, education.

Parents, as you well know every student starts out the new school year hoping and believing that the new year holds promises that they will achieve academic success. To assure student success we are asking that you have conversations with your son or daughter related to the following three items. **Attendance**, no student can achieve or sustain academic excellence without being in and engaged in learning every day. Just as in life, showing up and being the best you can is 90% of the battle. Mutually set **Academic Goals** and periodically engage in conversations related to how they are meeting their goals and what supports do they need from their teachers and you the parent. Help your son or daughter **Develop The Habits**, growth, mindset and routines to be successful; establish good study habits that would include time management, organizational skills and motivation.

(Continued)

(Cont'd from Page 1)

In closing I want to thank you for your trust and support of our Educators who want to be a part of your child's life and learning, today and tomorrow. We look forward to a very special and productive year together here at Oak Creek high School. We want...we need... and we value your involvement and support in your child's education. ***Your Children and our Students are capable of greatness!*** I sincerely thank you.

Michael Read, Principal

Today AS Always It's Great To Be A Knight!



OCHS Fall Parent Teacher Conferences AP Parent Night and Financial Aid Night

Tuesday, October 18, 2016

Oak Creek High School will be hosting their annual Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Teachers will be located in either the Auxiliary Gym or the Cafeteria. Counselors will also be available during parent conferences. No appointment is necessary. Child care will be provided by the Oak Creek Renaissance Club in room 157. A representative from Meca

Sports will be here for Letterman Jacket orders and information, and the School Store will be open for your convenience, selling spirit wear.

The AP Parent Night will also take place this evening at 5:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre. Parents and students will gain insights into the AP Programs here at Oak Creek High School. In addition, there will be a Financial Aid informational meeting for parents of college-bound students in the Little Theatre at 6:00 p.m.

Parent/Teacher Conferences provide an excellent opportunity for parents to gain insight about your child's recent academic performance, discuss class grades, policies and procedures.

ROUTINES FOR A SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Developing just a few good habits can help your teenager get off to a strong start this school year. Suggest these three routines.

1. First things first

Writing to-do lists lets your high schooler focus on what needs to be done right away and shows him what can wait. Suggest the he write a to-do list when he gets home every day. As he accomplishes each task, he'll find it satisfying to cross an item off—and even more satisfying to see all the items crossed off!

2. Everything in its place

Your teenager will save time and reduce stress if he establishes daily routines for packing and unpacking his backpack. He could put homework in a set location on a desk or table (not the middle of the floor!) Then, when he finishes, he should return assignments, books, and materials to his backpack and replenish supplies like pens, pencils, and paper. *Tip:* Ask him to set up an "inbox" and "outbox" for papers you need to sign.

3. Set a bedtime

This is something teens naturally resist, but sleep is crucial to successful school days. Students who arrive tired simply don't do as well as those who get a good night's rest. Establish a lights-out time that allows 8-10 hours of sleep. To help your teen fall asleep, have him shut off all electronic devices and leave them outside his room. Also, suggest that he avoid coffee or other caffeinated drinks in the afternoon and evening.

Please Note . . .



Thursday, September 15, 2016
Open House, 5:30-7:30pm

Monday thru Friday, September 19 thru 23, 2016
Homecoming Spirit Week

Friday, September 23, 2016
Homecoming Football Game 7:00 pm

Saturday, September 24, 2016
Homecoming Dance 7:00

Monday, October 3, 2016
Inservice Day-No School for Students

Tuesday, October 4, 2016
Parent Informational Meeting 9:00 am

Tuesday, October 18, 2016
Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-8:00 pm
AP Parents Night (Little Theatre) 5:30 pm
Financial Aid Night (Little Theatre) 6:00 pm

Wednesday, October 19, 2016
PSAT (Aux Gym) 7:30 am-11:30 am

Saturday, October 22, 2016
ACT Test Site 7:30 am

Friday, October 28, 2016
No School—Vacation Day

Academic Support

Oak Creek High School is committed to supporting students academically. In order to support the idea that ALL students are successful, we have made some changes to the study hall structure. Every hour there will be an Academic Resource Center (ARC) Stud Hall. Students are assigned to this study hall based on previous academic performance. The roster in these study halls can change as students requiring additional support are identified. School Counselors, administrators, and teachers will be identifying struggling students on a regular basis and re-assigning students to the ARC Study Halls as Necessary.



The ARC study hall is different from a regular study hall in that there are 2 core content area teachers—usually a math/science and social studies/English—who support each study hall on a rotating basis.

The sizes of these study halls is smaller than regular study halls, grades and missing assignments are monitored, and additional help in completing assignments and understanding content is provided. We are excited for this opportunity to further support struggling students. These placements are based on previous academic performance.



Oak Creek High School *Open House – Back to School Night* *TODAY – Thursday, September 15, 2016*

Oak Creek High School's Open House – Back to School Night will be held on Thursday, September 15th beginning promptly at 5:30 pm and will go until 7:30 pm. Parents/Guardians will follow their student's class schedule, with classroom periods lasting ten minutes each. Teachers will present a brief outline about their class during the classroom periods.

The emphasis for Open House – Back to School Night will be for parents to acquaint themselves with their student's teachers and their schedule. On Tuesday, September 13th, students will bring home their class schedule and a map of the high school to their parents. Parents/Guardians should bring this schedule and map with them to Open House. This is a great opportunity to visit and explore your student's high school, follow their class schedule for each period, and meet their teachers.



Senior Photo's

The Senior Photo's are due no later than Monday, October 3, 2016. Failure to meet this deadline means that your picture may not be included in the yearbook.

Submission Guidelines: Only digital files are accepted

Submit your high resolution senior photo to:
yearbookOCHS.weebly.com

- File name: Last name, First name (ex. Smith, Jane)
- File resolution: 300 DPI (Minimum)
- File format: jpeg or jpg (You may NOT submit other file formats (no Word, no PDF's, etc.))
- Photo orientation: Vertical photos only

We will not accept photos that do not meet the following guidelines:

- No props (hats/hoods, sports equipment, sunglasses, musical instruments, cars, etc.)
- Attire must be consistent with the school dress code
- Photo must be appropriate to be published in a high school yearbook

You are free to choose any studio you wish. No particular photographer has been selected by the yearbook or by the school.



Class Rings

Jostens will be here on Monday, October 10th to meet with the entire Sophomore class during their Advisory to present options for purchasing a class ring. Packets for

rings will be given to all Sophomores at this presentation to be taken home.

Class ring orders will be taken on Tuesday, October 18th during Sophomore Advisory/lunch hour and again that evening during Parent/Teacher Conferences between 4:00 and 8:00pm.

There will be one last chance to order your ring directly with the Josten's representative on Friday, October 21st during Sophomore Advisory/lunch hour.

Students from any grade level can order a class ring. If your child is not a sophomore but they wish to order a ring, have them stop in the high school office for a class ring packet.

Driver Education

Ready to get on the road?

OCHS Drivers Education classes start soon!

Registration is now open for Monday/Wednesday classes from September 19th thru November 9th OR Tuesday/Thursday classes from November 1st thru December 22nd after school.

The Driver Education Program includes classroom and behind-the-wheel phases.

Pre-registration is required. Registration forms are available in the high school office or register online @ www.ocfsd.org "Youth Programs".

Always remember . . . NEVER Text & Drive!





Boys Basketball Try-outs

Any Boys interested in trying out for the Boys Basketball team this year, there is a required

Parent/Player sign-up Infor-

mational meeting on Thursday, October 13, 2016 at 7:00pm in Little Theatre at Oak Creek High School.

More information can be found on the boys basketball website:

<http://www.oakcreekbasketball.com>

RULES FOR STUDENT DROP OFF/PICK UP

Each school day, over 2,000 students and 130 faculty and staff arrive at Oak Creek High School, most of them between 7:00 am and 7:20 a.m. and nearly all of them by car or bus. In order to safely and efficiently accommodate so many students, faculty, and staff in such a condensed time, the following procedures should be followed:

Student Drop Off/Pick Up: For both drop off and pick up, please use the front of the high school only. The east side of the building is for bus drop-off and pick ups. The only drivers using the east parking lot should be the bus drivers and staff members as this is their designated parking area.

You must stop for students in the crosswalks. Please proceed slowly and carefully after dropping off or picking up your child.

Why I'm Proud to Be a "Mean Mom"

My name is Vicki and I'm a mean mom. Not all the time, mind you, but I apparently have it "in me".

When the title was first bestowed upon me by one of my kids, I was flabbergasted! After all, I've never considered myself a mean person – I'm a natural born harmony seeker and intentional mean spiritedness gives me a stomachache. But after the tenth or twelfth time of hearing it – usually after saying no to something that ALL THE OTHER KIDS were doing/wearing/watching – I decided to embrace my mean mom status. I started telling my kids that only the best moms are mean moms, that I went to a special academy for the credential, and I graduated with honors. (I'll use any platform to put in a plug for educational pursuit.)

In fact —you look vaguely familiar. Weren't you in one of my classes?

Yes?

In that case, you must be doing a good job of parenting.

Being called "mean" means you're doing a good job of setting limits for your kids—embrace it! And don't let the seeds of doubt start to creep in like I did every other time my child called me "mean". I would ask myself,

Have I set the bar too high? Should I be more firm or more flexible? Am I way different than other parents out there?

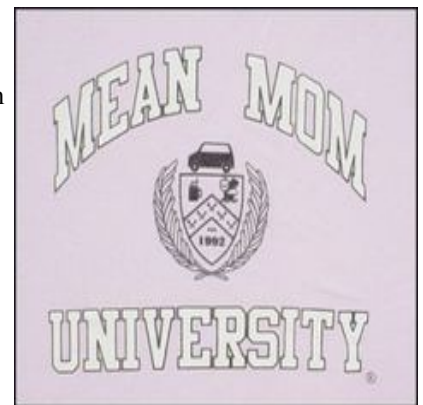
On those occasions there were a few pearls of wisdom that I turned to —to keep my confidence strong:

1. **Build solidarity with other parents.** Parenting in isolation is never a good thing. Air out any parenting doubts and dilemmas you are experiencing with other parents you admire, and listen back as they tell their stories. Philosophies and strategies will vary, but you'll get a stronger sense of your own parenting compass through the process.

2. **Stand firm on "pretty sure".** No parent has a completely clear road map all of the time – there are just too many factors at play when we're raising kids. Once you are "pretty sure" you have laid out a rule that is reasonable and enforceable, present your best, most serene "I know what I'm doing" face and stand behind your words with confidence.

3. **Less explanation, more empathy.** When you're trying to help your children understand the need for rules, try to land somewhere between "just because I said so" and a 15-point list of reasons. Stand behind your expectation, but meet your child's frustration over a rule with genuine acknowledgement and empathy. "I can tell it's really hard for you to turn off your phone and feel like you're missing something important with your friends, but it's our job as good parents to protect your sleep."

By: Vicki Bohling; www.parentfurther.com





Athletics

Welcome to Oak Creek High School, Home of the Knights!

The Fall athletic season is in full swing! Our student-athletes and coaches have been working extremely hard and that hard work is evident in our competitive play thus far. Below is a quick run-down of how our teams have fared thus far.

Girls Cross Country- The defending SEC champs and state qualifying team opened the season with a 1st place finish at the Bulldog Invitational in West Allis. The young team features three juniors and five sophomores as their top eight runners.

Boys Cross Country- A third place finish at the Bulldog Invitational to open the season was an encouraging sign of big things to come from the boys squad, as they were not at full strength and still finished high in the standings.

Girls Swim and Dive- The varsity swim and dive team continues to improve under Coach Schoen's tutelage. They placed third at the SEC relays to open the season, and are currently 2-0 in their conference dual meets.

Boys Soccer- For the first time in school history, the boys soccer team is ranked in the state poll. The team is 5-0 to start the season and ranked third in the state. They defeated perennial state power, Whitefish Bay, last week 1-0 for perhaps the biggest victory in program history.

Girls Volleyball- Your varsity girls have started the season 2-0 in conference play, and placed third at the UW-Whitewater tournament to open the season. This year's team is young but has played together well as a team in the early going.

Boys Volleyball- The second year program is off to an encouraging start, having won their conference opener over Kenosha Bradford last week in straight sets. Coach Flasch returns several senior starters from last year's team and expects them to perform well in the conference.

Girls Tennis- The defending SEC dual meet champs won the 15 team South Milwaukee Invite to start the season, and are currently 1-1 in conference dual meets. Coach Tellefsen's squad features a strong senior class this season with high hopes of contending for the conference title.

Girls Golf- Several key members from last year's inaugural team return this season, and the early results are showing that they have certainly improved. The team has won two dual meets as of press time and have defeated several conference foes in tournaments so far this season.

Football- The team has opened the season at 3-1 with wins over Menomonee Falls, Mukwonago, and Racine Park. A thrilling game against Kenosha Bradford that ended with the Knights on the wrong side of a 43-42 finish is the only blemish on their record thus far.

Scott Holler, Athletic/Activities Director

HOMEcoming INFORMATION



Friday, September 16th

Wall Decorating Contest: Each class is responsible for decorating a wall according to their class themes from 3:00-6:00pm. Anyone from your class can participate! Judging will take place promptly at 6:00pm

Monday, September 19th

Spirit Day: Class Color Day - *Freshman: Purple, Sophomores: Green, Juniors: Red, Seniors: Black, Staff: Blue*

Tuesday, September 20th

Mismatch Day: Mix styles, clash colors and look silly!

Wednesday, September 21th

Class Theme Day: Far Out Freshmen, Sporty Sophomores, Justice League Juniors, Sightseeing Seniors, Rock star Staff

Parade: Join the parade route to get the best view of the floats designed by OCHS clubs, teams, and organizations. Start time: 6:00pm

Powder Puff Game: Community Event: Cost \$2 immediately following the parade. Tickets will be sold during lunch hours as well as at the event. Be ready to cheer out-loud as the seniors and juniors duel it out to see who has more flag football skills. Performances includes: guy/girls dance, cheerleaders, appearances by the homecoming court.

Thursday, September 22nd

Spirit Day Theme: Post High School Day - What do you want to do after high school? Dress for it! Army fatigues, college gear, workforce apparel, etc.

Sidewalk Chalk Decorating Contest - Renaissance Club is hosting the 2nd annual contest! If your club/sport is interested in participating in this event, have a group representative stop by 213 to pick up a flyer for more information.

Friday, September 23rd

Spirit Day: Blue and White Day - Dig out all your Oak Creek gear, wear all the blue/white you can find to show off your school spirit/pride! Pep rally @ 2:00pm for entire school.

Football Game: 7:00pm. Come out to support your Knights football team as they battle the Tremper Trojans (Homecoming Court is introduced during half-time).

Saturday, September 24th

Homecoming Dance

\$15.00 admission, purchase your tickets at lunch, wear both wristbands and bring your ID! Formal wear only . . . NO JEANS and Oak Creek High School students only. 7:00pm-10:00pm OCHS Auxiliary Gym.



September-October

WELCOME BACK FALL 2016

We are kicking off the 2016-17 School Year with our marvelous managers, Katie and Ethan!



Football season is also underway! Please view our dates on the right and visit us next to the concessions during all home games starting from the first kickoff to the end of halftime.

Here's a sneak peak at some of our new products below! See you soon while shopping the Armory!



HOURS OF OPERATION

Armory (in school)

11:10 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.



2:45 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Armory is open during ALL Parent Conferences and Open House events.

- Football Season -

- 23-Sept—Tremper Homecoming
- 7-Oct—Case—Coaches vs. Cancer Game—Wear your PINK OUT shirts.

“All Proceeds Donated”



Armory's Participation in Homecoming

We sell apparel to go along with Color Day including...

- * Tie-Dye Shirts
- * Colored Bandanas
- * Knee High Socks

Armory Store

\$5.00 off Bags Only

Only used on regular priced bags in the Armory Store
One coupon per person



Now Accepting



What's New in the Armory

What's New in the Armory



September-October

WELCOME BACK FALL 2016



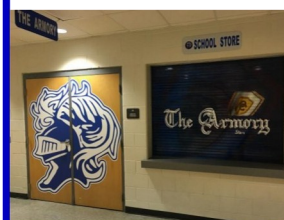
Ethan Meyer is the Financial Manager for the OCHS Armory. He is graduating from the Class of 2017 and his career path after high school is to attend UW-Madison majoring in the science field. This is Ethan's second year in the Armory as he focuses on training the new accountant for next season.



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