



OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023
VOL. 2023-24, NO. 4

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

IMPORTANT DATES

NO SCHOOL

Monday, September 25

HOMECOMING WEEK

Kickball Tournament

Monday, October 2nd

Bonfire

Tuesday, October 3rd

Homecoming Parade/Game:

Friday, October 6th (parade form on pg. 2.

Homecoming Dance:

Saturday, October 7th

Conferences (virtual, more to come)

Oct 17th: 4-7

Oct. 19th: 12-3

Oct 25th: 4-7

IMPORTANT LINKS

click these:

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[PARENT GROUP](#)

[BOND UPDATES](#)

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OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY,

I hope you are all doing well. There are a few things I want to bring to your attention:

- If you drop your kid off in the car line, please don't just stay in the line parked. Some people are just sitting in their cars for some reason. It's cool if you want to check your phone, but I'd ask you to please go to a different part of the lot--out of the car line.
- You may not "excuse" your student to go to lunch. Appts during lunch time will be excused WITH A NOTE; unfortunately, some parents are trying to circumvent the closed campus policy by "excusing" their students for lunch. That's not acceptable. Please don't put us in that position. We appreciate you working with us. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.
- October 12th: LifeTouch will be coming back to take photos of kids who did NOT get a photo taken/ID or want to order picture retakes. This is NOT for kids to just get a new picture for IDs.
- Clubs are starting to be in full swing. Please encourage your student to join! Click here: [Clubs/Groups information](#)
- On October 6th, we will be mailing home State assessment data from last year and the results from the NWEA, a diagnostic assesment taken by all English 9, Lit Comp 9, Studies Algebra, and Algebra students.

Thanks again for your partnership. We enjoy working with your kids. As always, I am very proud of our students, school, and community!

Dr. Kemsley

COUNSELING INFORMATION

Class of 2024

Please check your email from your counselor with the reminder to schedule your Senior Meeting. Appointments should be scheduled any time between now and the middle of October. [Check out this link for helpful information.](#)

National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

This test is open only to OHS students in the Class of 2025. More information is available here: [Digital PSAT/NMSQT October 12, 2023](#)

COLLEGE AND OTHER VISITS

DePaul University - Monday, September 18 in front of the cafeteria during lunch

Lawrence University - Wednesday, September 20 in front of the cafeteria during lunch

MSU - Thursday, September 21 during FLEX sign up with FLEX code

Albion College - Thursday, September 21 in front of the cafeteria during lunch

National Guard - Tuesday, September 26 in front of the cafeteria during lunch

Northwood University - Wednesday, September 27 in front of the cafeteria during lunch

U of M - Ann Arbor - Thursday, September 28 during FLEX sign up with FLEX code

Central Michigan University - Thursday, September 28 in front of the cafeteria during lunch

Miami University- Friday, September 29 in the counseling classroom during lunch

ATHLETICS UPDATE:

[Gofan Season Tickets](#) are up and available for purchase for the 23-24 season.

Update to date athletic schedules can be found at okemoswolves.org

HOMECOMING PARADE INFO:

Dear Club Advisors, Coaches, & Community Organizations,

Okemos High School Student Council wants to extend an invitation to participate in the 2023 Homecoming Parade, which is being held on Friday, October 6th. To sign up to participate in the parade please fill out this [Google Form](#)

CADL INFORMATION:

The [Capital Area District Library](#) is partnering with school districts in its service area to provide students with access to their educational resources. Through this initiative, OHS students can get a public library card no matter where they live. It gives them access to books, audiobooks, magazines and more in both digital and physical formats.

Having a Student Success account requires release of directory information to CADL. Any parent/guardian who does NOT want their student to have an account can opt out by contacting their building librarian by **September 22, 2023**.

SENIOR PICTURES:

Senior Pictures are due November 1st.

Mrs. Harrod sent an email regarding senior pictures to both parents/guardians and students that will describe exactly how to upload your senior picture. We are NOT collecting any senior pictures by email this year!

SENIOR PROJECT:

Seniors: It's not too early to think about the Senior Volunteer Project, which will take place on Tuesday, May 21st. Reserve your spot by completing this [form](#) and make your payment [here](#). If you would like to be considered as a site captain, you must complete this form by Feb. 1st. If you have questions about the Senior Volunteer Project, don't hesitate to get in touch with hedlun.walton@okemosk12.net.

ALL THINGS HOMECOMING!



Wednesday September 27th:

Dance Guest forms must be picked up from the main office.

Guest must be current HS students!

Forms due on Tuesday, October 3rd!

Monday, October 2nd:

Kickball tournament @ Hartrick Park!

Even if you didn't sign up to play, still come to support your friends!

Games start @5:30pm

Tuesday, October 3rd:

Bonfire @ OHS from 7-8pm

On practice football field - come to enjoy cider, donuts & the OHS band! Guest dance tickets must be purchased online by today! Guest forms must be turned in to the office by today!

Friday, October 6th:

Homecoming Parade

Parade starts @5:30 starting @ 2/42 church and ending at the OHS Stadium. *If you wish to walk with your class, come to 2/42 church @4:30 & bring candy to pass out!*

Saturday, October 7th:

Homecoming Dance

The dance takes place at the high school in the cafeteria. Students should be picked-up and dropped off in the student parking lot entrance. Dance starts @8pm (ends @ 11pm) - tickets are also sold at the door for \$10 (cash only) for OHS students only (no guests can pay at the door). All students must present school ID to enter the dance. ALL STUDENTS MUST ENTER THE DANCE BY 9PM. ALL GUEST MUST BE A CURRENT HS STUDENT!

****Please make sure you are ON TIME picking up your student at or before 11:00pm. There is no supervision after that point.**

Spirit Days:

Monday, Oct. 2 - Disney Day

Tuesday, Oct. 3 - Decades Day

Wednesday, Oct. 4 - Wolfpack Wednesday

Thursday, Oct. 5 - Beach Day

Friday, Oct. 6 - Class T-Shirt Day! *Class T-shirts will be sold ONLINE ONLY for \$15*

If you need financial assistance for any of these events, please have your child contact their counselor at least 24 hours in advance.

FROM DR. LARA SLEE, DIRECTOR OF DEI

E3 Grant Information

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](#). 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](#).

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Advisory Coalition

As we put the [Okemos Public Schools Equity Plan](#) into action, we rely on the guidance of a diverse district-wide group of people. The Okemos Public Schools' **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Advisory Coalition (DEIAC)** is committed to creating a culturally responsive and sustaining responsive school district in which students, staff, caregivers and community recognize, accept, celebrate and value the diverse attributes of one another. The DEIAC will offer perspectives to inform meaningful and relevant action throughout OPS to ensure that we are meeting the academic and behavioral needs of ALL of our students.

Expectations of the DEIAC:

- Review [OPS Equity Plan](#) on a yearly basis (Did we do what we said we'd do? Who's benefiting from what we're doing? Are we trending in the right direction?)
- Review OPS Equity Plan every three years to determine if our goals and strategies still align with the OPS Strategic Plan. Are we getting the outcomes we want/need?
- Identify data to be collected to monitor goals (qualitative and quantitative)
- Analyze data
- Monitor progress toward equity goals
- Seek input and identify priorities to share with the Board of Education and Core Leadership Team
- Provide feedback and guidance to work teams
- Inform district professional development planning
- Provide updates to BOE and community

An [application](#) process occurs every two years, and, with the exception of students, a minimum of a two-year commitment is appreciated. Each year, members will be asked to reflect on their participation in the DEIAC and to provide feedback regarding the group's dynamics, purposes, and facilitation in order to continuously improve.

Applications are due before or on Friday, September 22.

A subcommittee of the DEIAC members will review the current composition of our membership, determine criteria, review applications and select members, and **membership will be limited to 25 people.**

Criteria considered by the subcommittee will include:

- Role (e.g. staff, student, parent, community member)
- Grade level band
- Reasons for applying (Do reasons align with equity plan's guiding principles?)
- Attributes (e.g. experiences, skills)

For more information, contact Dr. Lara Slee, Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, lara.slee@okemosk12.net, 517-706-5011.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



1st Annual Student Health Fair

Monday, September 18th 4-6pm
Okemos High School Gym

Vaccine Clinic, (Insurance will be billed) *signup required see QR Code below), Free EKGs, free vision and hearing testing, Sports Physicals \$25, Free walking/running gait analysis, Dental Screenings, and more!

Hosted By:



Call Okemos Health Team with questions: 517-706-5008
Please bring insurance card for immunizations

TCBA YOUTH CYCLING CLUB



FALL FUN RIDE



OCTOBER 7TH, 2023
9AM TO 12PM

MICHIGAN STATE CAPITOL

FREE
EXCITING
LEARN

ADULTS WELCOME



REGISTER HERE:

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/5CVYTF5C](https://tinyurl.com/5CVYTF5C)



biketcba.org