



Welcome back to School!

Dear Parents, Students, and Community Members,

On behalf of the entire Okanogan School District staff, I extend a warm welcome to all of you as we embark on another exciting school year. Whether you are returning or joining us for the first time, we are thrilled to have you as part of our community.

Our commitment to student success remains our top priority. As highlighted in our strategic plan, we are focused on preparing and empowering all students for a successful future. We believe that students are central to our mission, and we are dedicated to providing an academically rigorous and supportive environment where every student can thrive.

Attendance is a crucial component of academic success, and we encourage all students to be present and engaged. Making attendance a huge priority will make a major difference in each student's learning. Thank you in advance for your efforts to ensure excellent attendance this year.

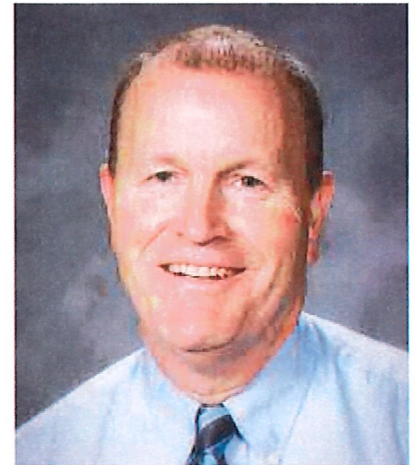
We are proud of the wide range of extra-

curricular activities we offer, from sports to clubs, which are essential for student success at all levels. Our students have achieved great success in these areas, and we encourage even more participation this year. Extracurricular involvement not only enhances the school experience but also helps students develop valuable life skills.

This year, we will be working on important facility improvements. We are grateful to have received substantial state funding to enhance the HVAC system at Virginia Grainger Elementary School, ensuring a comfortable learning environment for our students. We are also hopeful that a grant for a new track will be secured soon. We regularly look for grant opportunities to save our taxpayers' money.

Additionally, we are in the early stages of exploring a replacement bond to further improve our facilities. We understand the importance of gathering input from our community, and we will be reaching out to ensure that we have a comprehensive plan in place.

We are excited about the opportunities this school year will bring and are com-



School District Superintendent,
Steve Quick

mitted to fostering a culture that promotes a sense of belonging and safety for all. Together, with the support of our families and community, we can make this a successful and rewarding year for our students.

I am proud of our staff, students, and community as Okanogan is an amazing place to be. Thank you for your continued support and partnership.



Special Education Director
Okanogan School District

Special Education

I am very excited for the opportunity to be a part of the Special Education Program in the Okanogan School District! I am honored to have been invited to join a great school community and to lead a talented department devoted to serving students and their families.

I grew up in the area, went away to college and my first teaching job, then returned 17 years ago. I have held various roles in the Omak School District, including Business Education Teacher, Career & Assessment Coordinator, and CTE Director. We have been very fortunate to have three

children who have grown up in the Okanogan School District.

My vision for the Special Education Department is to ensure that students with disabilities receive individualized services and resources, so that they have competencies and supports needed to access and participate in the general curriculum and all aspects of school. I look forward to meeting students, families, and staff and contributing to the betterment of the Okanogan School District.

Tanya Peterson

Okanogan School District

Welcome New Staff



Laynee Hubbard
First Grade Teacher



Olivia Richards
Elementary Special
Education Teacher



Tiffany Davisson
School Nurse



Todd Rouse
Food Service Director

Plus: Tanya Peterson, Special Education Director (Pictured page 1)

Middle School

Dear Okanogan Middle School Families,

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year at Okanogan Middle School! As we prepare to open our doors for another year of learning and growth, I am filled with a sense of hope and optimism for what lies ahead. Our theme for this school year is "Hope," which serves as a beacon guiding us through the challenges and opportunities we will encounter together.

Hope: This year, we are dedicated to fostering an environment where hope thrives. Hope encourages our students to dream big, work hard, and believe in their abilities. It is through hope that we can inspire resilience, creativity, and a positive outlook in every student.

I am pleased to invite you to our 6th Grade Open House on August 26th from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. This event is an excellent opportunity for parents and students to meet our dedicated staff, learn about the upcoming school year, and explore the various programs we offer. Additionally, parents will have the chance to rent instruments for their children who are interested in joining the band. We believe that music education is a vital part of our curriculum, and we are excited to support our students in their musical journey.

We understand that a strong partner-

ship between school and home is essential for student success. We are committed

to maintaining open lines of communication and fostering a supportive and inclusive school community. Your involvement and support play a crucial role in your child's education, and we look forward to working together to ensure a positive and rewarding school year.

As we embark on this journey, let us embrace the theme of hope and work together to create a nurturing and inspiring environment for our students. With your support, we can help our children build the confidence and skills they need to achieve their dreams.

Thank you for being a part of the Okanogan Middle School community. We are excited to see you at the 6th Grade Open House and throughout the school year. Here's to a year filled with hope, growth, and endless possibilities!

Warm regards,



Okanogan Middle School Principal
Dorinda Belcher

Dorinda Belcher

CHILD FIND NOTICE

The Okanogan School District is required by Washington Administrative Code 392-172-100 to inform patrons of the special education services and programs available within the district.

The State of Washington defines special needs as having concerns with: developmental delays, vision, hearing, health, communication skills, academic performance, social-emotional status, general intelligence, motor abilities, autism, traumatic brain injury, transition services or other disabilities.

People with children from birth to age 21, who have any of these conditions, are encouraged to contact the district's director of special services, Tanya Peterson at 422-3770, for more information.

Welcome back to the 2024-2025 school year at Virginia Grainger!

I hope you enjoyed a wonderful summer filled with fun and relaxation. We are excited to have our students back and ready for another year of learning and growth. This year is packed with opportunities, and we can't wait to explore them together!

To support your child's success, we are setting a goal of achieving a 95% attendance rate this year. Regular school attendance is crucial for building confidence, connecting with peers, and engaging in the learning process. We will track attendance monthly and celebrate our achievements as a school community!

Here are some tips to help ensure your child attends school regularly:

Set a Routine: Establish consistent bedtimes and morning routines to prepare them for success.

Prepare the Night Before: Finish homework and ensure they get a good night's sleep.

Mark Your Calendar: Note the first day of school and check that all required immunizations are up to date.

Encourage Daily Attendance: Encourage your child to attend school every day unless they are genuinely unwell. Sometimes, a stomach ache or headache might be linked to anxiety rather than illness.

Plan Appointments Wisely: Try to schedule appointments and trips during school breaks.

Have a Backup Plan: If unexpected issues arise, reach out to family or friends for help with transportation.

Monitor Attendance: Missing more than 9 days in a year can impact your child's progress.

Discuss Importance: Talk to your child about why attending school matters.

Be Alert for Changes: If you notice sudden changes in your child's behavior, connect with their teachers, as it may relate to school experiences.

Encourage After-School Activities: Support your child's involvement in sports and clubs.

Did You Know?

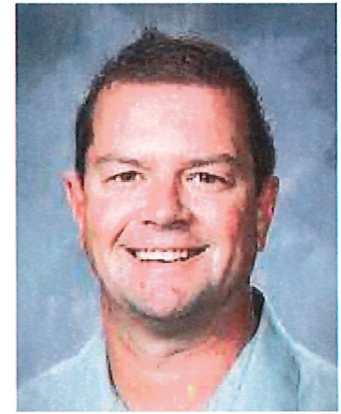
Missing just 10% of the school year (about 18 days) can significantly impact academic performance in reading and math.

Regular attendance helps develop social skills and fosters strong relationships with peers and teachers.

By 9th grade, consistent attendance is a better predictor of graduation than test scores.

Absences can affect not only the absent student's learning but also the classroom environment.

We truly miss your child when they are absent, and we value their contributions to our community. We understand



Virginia Grainger Principal
Jeremy Clark

that challenges can arise, whether due to health or transportation issues. Our dedicated staff—teachers, counselors, and I—are here to support you and your family. Please reach out if you face any obstacles; we are committed to ensuring your child attends school regularly.

As the school year approaches, incorporating even 15 minutes of reading and math practice into your daily routine can make a significant difference!

I feel fortunate to be part of this wonderful school and community, and I look forward to building a partnership with you this year. I encourage everyone to get involved, from classroom activities to the PTO and Family Fun Nights. Open communication is key, so please reach out to your child's teacher or me with any questions or concerns.

Working together,
Jeremy Clark
Principal

"REGULAR" TIME SCHEDULE

	High School	Middle School	Elementary School
Day Begins	8:05 a.m.	8:05 a.m.	8:15 a.m.
Lunch Breaks	12:38-1:12	6th Grade 10:50-11:24 7-8th Grade 11:44-12:18	K & 1st Grade 11:00-11:35 2-3rd Grade 11:35-12:05 4 & 5th Grade 12:10-12:40
School Release	3:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	2:55 p.m.
Buses Leave	3:07 p.m.	3:07 p.m.	3:00 p.m.

Okanogan School District

Dear Bulldogs...

We hope summer break provided all of you with an opportunity to rest, reflect, and rejuvenate! It is a thrilling time to be a bulldog as we are eager to welcome our students and staff back into the building! Speaking of, the high school office will open on Tuesday, August 13 at 8 a.m. with the first day of school being Tuesday, August 27. If you are a new student, please contact us so we can assist you in setting up an appointment with one of the counselors.

For our incoming freshmen, we understand that starting high school can be both exciting and nerve-wracking. As a result, you are cordially invited to our orientation on August 20 at 6 p.m. This event, which will be hosted by ASB officers in the cafeteria, is an excellent chance for you to become acquainted with Okanogan High School and connect with your peers.

Probably the best bargain around is the Bulldog ASB card! For \$45 students can get



High School Principal
Zach Spaet

into all regular season home games and use it for many discounts throughout the year. If you are an athlete or involved in ASB activities/clubs, you are required to have one. ASB cards may be purchased online through the payment portal (www.oksd.wednet.edu) or in the high school office.

Again, we are focused on improving attendance for our students this year. Please understand that guardians must provide an excuse note or call the high school office when their son or daughter returns to school from an absence. If a student has an unexcused absence, they may not be able to make up missing work and/or will be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities that day. Finally, it is important to know that data shows students who attend 90 percent or more of the school year have better grades and graduate on time.

High school credits using digital curriculum for those participating in the Diploma Pathway program.

Flexible learning plans that students complete at their own pace.

Personalized support from knowledgeable staff.

Career and college readiness.

Direct referral to free counseling.

The Okanogan Outreach will continue to offer students the ability to accelerate their schooling for early graduation, engage in credit retrieval, or graduate with a Washington State Diploma. Outreach staff work with students to help them meet their educational goals by having extended hours and flexible scheduling to accommodate jobs, family and other commitments. As part of the Outreach program we also offer online classes through Edgenuity for students who prefer digital learning.

Another point of emphasis this year will be centered on the use of electronic devices. In order to improve engagement and authentic socialization, while at the same time decreasing interruptions and misbehavior, electronic devices will be kept in lockers during the school day. We believe this will be a positive change to ensure our students are receiving the very best education possible.

We are excited to re-engage and connect—unifying as Bulldogs through Courtesy, Pride, and Respect. Although we are all unique, Okanogan High School has something to offer everyone. My best advice to our students is be courageous in seeking those opportunities—as well as focusing on attendance, working to ability-level, being in the moment, and never giving up. Please remember you are always welcome to reach out to the high school office at 509.422.3770. We are here to serve you and want what is best for all of you!

Sincerely,
Zach Spaet

The Okanogan Alternative Schools will begin distributing enrollment packets at our Outreach location on August 21st and will begin enrolling students on August 27th. If you have any questions or would like to make an appointment with one of our instructors, please contact our Enrollment Administrator Jennifer Heindselman at 826-7612. For more information about the Alternative Schools visit www.oksd.wednet.edu, navigate to schools, then alternative programs.



Outreach/Alternative Principal
Roy Johnson

Sincerely,
Roy Johnson

Greetings,

It is a pleasure to welcome you back to school! This year is going to be another exciting one as we have added a part time counselor and we will have a new Alternative School Instructor. In addition, the Alternative School is going to offer an Open Doors Program this year. The Open Doors Re-Engagement Program provides students an alternative pathway towards earning their GED or High School diploma, along with the opportunity to enhance personal skills in a variety of academic and/or career areas.

The Open Doors team works closely with students to ensure academic goals are being met, as well as assisting with career readiness skills with instruction, internships and skill certification opportunities. Our staff monitors each student's progress regularly and adjusts lessons accordingly we offer:

GED preparation through the GED Pathway.

Attention Middle and High School Parents:

We are excited to announce that our middle and high school offers student laptop insurance at a minimal cost of just \$25 per student, with an additional \$5 for each additional student (2 students are \$20, 3 are \$35). We understand the importance of safeguarding the valuable tools that aid in our students' education. Laptops have become an integral part of modern learning, and accidents can happen anytime, anywhere. By investing in this insurance, students can ensure they are protected from unexpected damages and costly repairs.

Insurance coverage for student laptops is more crucial than ever before. With the increasing reliance on technology for education, laptops have become an essential asset for students. Unfortunately, accidents are a part of life, and it only takes a split second for an unforeseen mishap to occur. Whether it's a spilled drink, a dropped backpack, or an accidental knock, these incidents can result in irreparable damage to laptops. Without insurance, student bear the fi-

nancial burden of repairing or replacing their laptops, which can be a significant setback for both their education and their families.



Technology Supervisor
Cari Zachow

Each laptop is assigned to an individual student and they are solely responsible for any damage that occurs either at school or outside of school. We encourage families to take advantage of our insurance program so in the event of laptop damage, by the assigned student or by another student, the damage is covered by insurance. If you choose not to purchase insurance,

the student assigned to the laptop will be responsible for all damages and charges. Insurance will be available to purchase at the Middle School New Student/6th grade orientation, the middle school office and high school office starting August 29th. Remember, accidents happen, don't wait until it's too late.

WELCOME BACK!

I hope everyone had a great summer! The 2024-25 school year will bring some exciting changes. Okanogan Athletics has partnered with FinalForms, an online forms and data management service for athletic registration. FinalForms allows you to complete and sign athletic participation forms for your student athletes. In addition to registering for athletics in FinalForms, sports physicals remain a requirement for athletic participation. All student athletes will be required to purchase an ASB card prior to participating in their first contest. ASB cards can be purchased in the MS or HS offices at a cost of \$45 for HS students and \$30 for MS students.

Okanogan High School football, volleyball and boys' and girls' basketball games will now be live streamed on the NFHS Network. Go to NFHSnetwork.com, sign up for a subscription to view our games as well as many other high schools' state wide.

Okanogan School District is committed to promoting good sportsmanship by our student athletes, coaches

and spectators. While attending our home and away events please be a positive role model and display traits of trustworthiness, citizenship, respect and caring for all student-athletes, coaches, other spectators and officials. Thank you for your cooperation in the promotion of good sportsmanship.

Please follow the Okanogan School District on Facebook, Instagram &/or Twitter. Additionally, go to www.okanoganathletics.com for all our rosters, schedules, departure times etc.

Kevin



Athletic Director
Kevin Daling

Housing Difficulties?

Are you struggling to find permanent housing due to financial difficulties? Okanogan School District's McKinney Vento program can help your child maintain their school stability and can help connect your family to resources.

If any of the following circumstances are true, your children may qualify for McKinney-Vento supports through Okanogan School district's McKinney Vento program.

Are you currently:

- Couch surfing (moving from place to place to sleep),
- Doubled up with friends or relatives due to financial hardship,
- A teen living on your own,
- At risk of losing your home,
- Living without plumbing or electricity,
- Living in a hotel or motel, vehicle or campground,
- Living in a shelter, or
- Living on the street

If you can answer "yes" to any of these living situations, please contact Julia O'Connor by calling or texting (509)322-7131 and let her help you connect with school and area resources.

Okanogan School District

Welcome to an exciting new school year filled with learning and laughter!

At Okanogan School District, our priority is ensuring the safety of over 700 students on their daily commute to and from school, as well as for sports, field trips, and other extracurricular activities. Our dedicated transportation team works tirelessly to create a secure and positive environment for all students. We aim to familiarize both students and parents with our policies, procedures, and behavior expectations, with the understanding that this privilege may be revoked if a student's behavior compromises bus safety.



Transportation Director
Larry Scroggins

We're proud to introduce a cutting-edge live GPS and E-log tracking system, designed to enhance safety and streamline our operations. This update enables our administrative team to respond promptly to any questions from parents or emergency situations. Furthermore, we have upgraded the camera systems on most of our school buses, reaffirming our commitment to student safety.

At Okanogan School District, we hold ourselves to the highest standards and are pleased to share that we have passed our State Patrol inspections with flying colors.

For any questions regarding your student's transportation needs, don't hesitate to reach out and call us at (509)422-3300.

Sincerely,

Larry Scroggins
Director of Transportation
Okanogan School District

State Requires "Homebased Students" File

Parents providing homebased instruction to their children must, according to Washington State laws, file the following information via their local school district: child's name, grade, birth date, and credentials if any, of home instructor.

Parents may pick up forms and file this information at the Okanogan School District office located at 115 Rose Street. The due date for filing is September 15, or within two weeks of the beginning of the school quarter.

Any questions, please contact Brandy Williams, District Secretary at 422-3629.

Save the date for the 2nd FFA Plant Sale on May 2-3, 2025



Our new greenhouse is an 1800 sq ft structure, complete with automated temperature and humidity monitoring and controls. This fall, we are adding an automated shade cloth system, and drip irrigation for the hanging baskets, thanks to a grant from the Washington FFA Foundation. Our first year utilizing this learning lab was a huge success and the agriculture department is looking forward to implementing this facility in class again this school year!



New addition to Okanogan High School includes two new classrooms.

Okanogan School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

2024-2025 Okanogan School District Calendar

July 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 2024						
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September 2024						
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October 2024						
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November 2024						
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December 2024						
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29	30	31				



2024-25

Aug 20-22 & 26	Professional Development Days
Aug 27	First Day of School for Students
Sep 2	Labor Day - No School
Sep 6	Fair Day - No School
Sep 27	Professional Develop for teachers
Sep 27	Native American Day - No School
Oct 25	Professional Develop for teachers
Nov 1	Quarter Ends-Early Release-Grading Day
Nov 7-8	PT Conferences - No School
Nov 11	Veterans Day - No School
Nov 27-29	Thanksgiving Vacation
Dec 23-Jan 3	Winter Break
Jan 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School
Jan 24	Semester End-Early Release-Grading Day
Jan 31	Professional Develop for teachers*
Feb 14	No School (Possible Snow Day Makeup)
Feb 17	Presidents' Day - No School
Feb 28	Professional Develop for teachers
Mar 28	Quarter Ends-Early Release-Grading Day
Mar 31 - Apr 4	Spring Break
Apr 10-11	PT Conferences - No School
May 26	Memorial Day - No School
Jun 7	High School Graduation
Jun 9	Outreach Graduation
Jun 10	Last Day of School - Early Release

Inclement weather to be made up Feb 14.
 If no days are off because of weather, Feb 14 will become a vacation day from school.
 Make up days beyond one will be added to end of year.

January 2025						
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February 2025						
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March 2025						
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April 2025						
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May 2025						
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June 2025						
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Other Events to Consider
Aug 21 HS Football Begins
Aug 26 HS VB, Soccer, CC Begin
Aug 26 MS Football Begins
Aug 26 MS VB Begins
Aug 26 MS CC Begins

Other Events to Consider
Oct 28 MS BB and MS Girls WR Begin
Nov 18 HS Winter Sports Begin
Jan 6 MS GB and MS Boys WR Begin
Feb 21-22 State Wrestling Championships
Mar 5-8 State Basketball Championships

Other Events to Consider
Mar 3 HS Spring Sports Begin
Mar 24 MS Track Begins
May 31 Final HS Spring Sports Championship

