



# OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL

AUGUST 15, 2024  
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OHS NEWSLETTER. Published on the 1st and 15th each month.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### 1st Day of School

Wednesday, August 21st  
1/2 Day Schedule: 7:45 -10:55 am

### Open House

Thursday, August 22nd  
Parent Meeting in the Auditorium:  
5:30- 6:00  
Classroom Visits:  
6:00-7:00

### No School

Friday, August 30  
Monday, September 2

## IMPORTANT LINKS

click these:

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[BOND UPDATES](#)

[PARENT GROUP NEWSLETTER](#)

[PARENT GROUP MEETING](#)

[MINUTES](#)

## OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY,

Seeing so many students in the school during Kickstart and Freshmen CONNECT was wonderful! If you did not have an opportunity to attend, don't worry! It will be ok. You can see your schedules online and pick up your paper schedule with locker and combination in the office.

### POWERSCHOOL: ACTIVE NOW!

**NEW DEVICES!:** On THURSDAY students will go to the library with their English classes to get new computers. Students need to bring their DEVICE, BAG, and CHARGER to turn in. Please help them to remember all three of these items. Thanks!

**FYI:** Consumers Energy is installing additional lights on Hulett Rd. Look for those upgrades in the near future.

**OPEN HOUSE** (details at left): This is an informal open house. The parent meeting is most critical for parents who are brand new to the high school. All are welcome, though. After the parent meeting, this is your opportunity to check out the school and meet the teachers. There are no bells or schedules. It is more like a meet and greet to get the vibe of the school. There is NO NEED for students to attend (they probably don't want to either, lol).

**SECURE VESTIBULE/BOND UPDATE:** Construction on our new secure vestibule (Jolly Rd. entrance) is moving along nicely. Until finished, there is NO access to the Jolly Rd. visitors' lot. All parents and students will use door 20 near the gym off of Hulett. Also, please familiarize yourself with the last page of this newsletter for updated safety protocols.

Please reach out if you need anything! - Dr. Kemsley

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## COUNSELING INFORMATION

### Monthly Counselor Newsletter

Please access the [June Counseling Newsletter](#) here.

### Cap & Gown Donation

Counselors are accepting cap & gown donations from the Class of 2021 to 2024 to be used by economically disadvantaged students. Please drop them off in the main office if you would like to donate them.

### Class of 2025

Check out this link for [helpful information](#). You will be meeting with your counselor for your Senior Meeting this fall and we will answer questions you have about your post secondary plans.

### National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

This test is open only to OHS students in the Class of 2026. More information is available here: [Digital PSAT/NMSQT October 17, 2024](#)

## END-OF-DAY ROUTINE

At 3pm every day, students may do the following:

1. Head home.
2. Wait outside for a ride
3. Work with a teacher
4. Work with a coach
5. Work in the Library from 2:45 to 3:45 pm M, Tu, W, Th

Students and families need to plan ahead. We cannot have students unsupervised in the building after 3 pm. Unsupervised students will be asked to leave the building at 3 pm, which seems counterintuitive, I know. We do not have the human resources to supervise them after school.

## THE INFAMOUS CAR LINE

The student entrance off of Hulett Road is the only space where students who are driving or getting a ride to school should be entering the building. The bus loop is closed to non-staff for safety reasons, and the guest entry off of Jolly Road is currently closed for construction. This was also the case last year, and thankfully, all students and staff were still able to get to school on time when they planned ahead.

Here's the thing: if you get here by 7:15, you'll have a stress-free, easy time. If you arrive at 7:30, it's going to be busy. Plan ahead. For after school, you can plan to be at the school early, or pick up your student 15 minutes after school lets out to avoid the first wave. Make a plan that works for your family, and please be courteous to others.

## IMPORTANT 24-25 NHS DATES

Please Mark your Calendars for next year's Mandatory NHS Events:

- 9/4/24 - Chapter Meeting, 7:15am in the Auditorium (Dues and Bylaws due)
- 10/5/24 - Bottle Drive for Food Bank, 8am-1pm OHS Staff Lot & Community
- 12/4/24 - Chapter Meeting, 7:15am in the Auditorium
- 2/4/25 - Chapter Meeting, 7:15am in the Auditorium
- 4/9/25 - Blood Drive, 8am-1:30pm, Wrestling Room
- 5/6/25 - Induction, 6:30pm, Auditorium
- 5/28/25 - Chapter Meeting, 7:15am in the Auditorium

## OKEMOS WOLF RUN AND WALK

The District Events Council is excited to present our first annual Okemos Wolf Run and Walk: The Mascot trot 5K on August 24. Pre-registration is now open!!

<https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/Okemos/okemoswolfmun>

**OKEMOS WOLF RUN & WALK**  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2024

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!  
T-SHIRTS & MEDALS FOR PARTICIPANTS!

MILE RUN | MASCOT TROT 5K | KID SPRINT

Artist rendering of new mascot!

**FEATURING:**  
THE OKEMOS WOLF PACK  
THE OKEMOS DANCE TEAM  
GIVEAWAYS AND MORE!

**SIGN UP NOW!**  
PRE-REGISTER FOR EARLY BIRD PRICING.

QR code for registration



Dear Okemos Families,

We are committed to the safety of our students, staff, and visitors and are taking numerous steps to ensure that district buildings are safe environments. Recent security improvements and enhancements include new secured entry vestibules in four of our schools: Okemos Public Montessori, Cornell and Bennett Woods elementaries, and Edgewood Early Childhood Center. Secured vestibule construction is currently happening at Hiawatha Elementary and Okemos High School. When the new Chippewa and Kinawa building is completed, it will also have secured vestibules.

Thank you for collaborating with the district to keep those in our buildings safe by following these updated protocols.

### Visitor Management Protocols

- **Name and Reason:** At the main entrance, each visitor will ring the video doorbell and be asked for their name and reason for visiting before entering the vestibule.
- **One at a time:** Each visitor must individually be verified through the video doorbell before entering the vestibule. After verification, we ask that visitors do not hold the door open for anyone behind them. Each person should be verified before entering.
- **Office check in:** Visitors will be checked in through the main office and may be required to present photo identification. They must sign in and obtain a visitor's pass prior to entering the school.
- **Visitor's pass:** All visitors must wear and be identified by a visitor's pass while in the building.
- **Office check out:** Before leaving the building, visitors must return the visitor's pass and check out with the office.
- **Item drop off:** If a visitor needs to drop off items for a student (lunch, homework, device, etc.), they can label and deposit those at that school's designated location. Visitors will not need to enter the building to drop off items.
- **Student pick up:** If a visitor plans to pick up a student during the school day, please notify the school. If you are picking up from an elementary school, call the main office. At the middle schools and the high school, contact the registrar or attendance office.

Please know that the district works to maintain environments that allow students, staff, and visitors to feel welcomed, as well as secure, at our schools. Thank you for your support in keeping us safe. If you have any questions, please contact your school or the Director of Safety and Security.

Sincerely,

John Hood  
Superintendent

Katherine Diehl  
Director of Safety and Security