



OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL

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

IMPORTANT DATES

No School

Monday, September 2

Picture Retakes

Friday, September 6

Homecoming Week September 16-21

Bonfire: Sept 18

Parade & Game: Sept 20

Dance: Sept 21

No School

Monday, September 23

IMPORTANT LINKS

click these:

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[BOND UPDATES](#)

[PARENT GROUP NEWSLETTER](#)

[PARENT GROUP MEETING](#)

[MINUTES](#)

OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY,

Homecoming is just around the corner! We're excited to share information about the upcoming parade—please click [\[HERE\]](#) for details.

One important note: we ask that students avoid gathering around the traffic circle near Bennett Woods. Last year, we noticed that this area became quite busy with parade traffic, and there were a few instances where kids were running into the street to collect candy.

While we absolutely want kids to enjoy the candy, their safety is our top priority. We'll begin distributing candy once we reach Hulett Road.

On the topic of safety, if you're driving south on Hulett rd. in the mornings, please turn into the stadium and loop around to the high school. This helps ease traffic for those turning left from Jolly Road. Additionally, once you approach a sidewalk, please drop off your children so they can walk the rest of the way to the doors. This small step speeds up the process for everyone, reducing wait times, especially those coming from Jolly rd. trying to turn left.

A quick reminder: Picture retakes are next Friday, September 6th. Lastly, I want to acknowledge the fantastic start to our school year. Typically, the beginning of the year can feel a bit hectic, but this year, the atmosphere has been surprisingly calm and positive.

I'm incredibly proud of our staff, students, and the entire school community. As always, if you need anything, don't hesitate to reach out.

- Dr. Kemsley

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COUNSELING INFORMATION

Check out the latest information from the Counseling Office in our [September Newsletter](#).

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](#)

CADL STUDENT ACCESS

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 13, 2024.

TECH USE REMINDER

To ensure the security, reliability, and performance of our school-issued laptops, it is crucial that we adhere to a clear policy regarding software installation. As stated in our handbook, please be advised that only software that has been pre-approved by our technology department is allowed to be installed on school laptops.

Unapproved software can pose various risks, including security vulnerabilities, compatibility issues, and disruptions to the laptop's performance. To protect our students' learning environment and maintain the integrity of our technology systems, we must prevent the installation of any unauthorized applications.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in adhering to this policy. By working together, we can ensure that our technology resources are used effectively and remain secure for everyone in our school community.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact our IT department or the school office.

IMPORTANT 24-25 NHS DATES

If you have an issue getting to our four 7:15am meetings, (reduced schedule, late buses, dual enrollment, 7th grade camp, etc.) there will be a "make-up" meeting the day before the scheduled meeting after school in the KIVA. You can attend this meeting instead. An excused absence from school means you are excused from the meeting. Please check Google Classroom for updates and announcements.

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

- 9/4/24 - Chapter Meeting, 7:15am in the Auditorium (OR 9/3 at 2:45pm in the KIVA) (Dues and Bylaws due)
- 10/5/24 - Bottle Drive for Food Bank, 8am-1pm in the OHS Staff Lot & Community
- 12/4/24 - Chapter Meeting, 7:15am in the Auditorium (OR 12/3 at 2:45pm in the KIVA)
- 2/4/25 - Chapter Meeting, 7:15am in the Auditorium (OR 2/3 at 2:45pm in the KIVA)
- 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 (OR 5/27 at 2:45pm in the KIVA)

BRIGHTARROW TEXT/SMS MESSAGES

Families can "Opt-In" to receive text messages from the school by replying YES to the short code 87569. You will get a message back from BrightArrow stating "you are subscribed with BrightArrow". Once the parent/guardian has opted in, all text messages will come from the short code 87569.

LIBRARY HOURS

The library will be open to all students Monday-Thursday each week from 2:45-3:45 pm. Please look at the dates below for when the library will be closed due to staff meetings.

September 17
October 1
November 5
December 3
January 7
February 4
March 4
April 1
May 6

Okemos High School Theatre Department Fall Play



**FALL PLAY | Cast Auditions & Crew Applications
September 16 & 17 from 4:00-5:30**

Harvey, a Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy by Mary Chase, is the story of a perfect gentleman, Elwood P. Dowd, and his best friend, Harvey — a six-foot tall, invisible rabbit. When Elwood begins introducing Harvey around town, his embarrassed sister, Veta Louise, and her daughter, Myrtle Mae, decide to commit Elwood to a sanitarium. A mistake is made, however, and Veta is committed rather than Elwood! What ensues is a comedy of errors resulting in mistaken identities, misdiagnoses, and a search for the elusive rabbit that reminds us to embrace the quirks that make us special.

Students interested in being in the cast or crew can click on this [HARVEY LINK](#). There you can find out more information about auditions and joining the crew. You can also scan the QR code below. Please get in touch with Mr. DeKatch (chad.dekatch@okemosk12.net) if you have any questions.

