

August 11, 2024

Hello Kinawa Families,

As we inch closer to the start of the school year I want to remind everyone of Thursday's Kinawa Kick Start event from 10am - 3pm. Please plan to park in the large parking lot on the east side of the building and enter through door #17. This event is an open house style event where families can come and go as they please. Most families will spend approximately 45 minutes in the building.

There is a lot of information below that will be helpful to begin the school year.

### UPCOMING DATES

**August 15th: Kinawa's Kick Start Orientation from 10:00am - 3:00 pm.**

**August 21st: First day of School.** The first day of school is a ½ day with school beginning at 8:45 am and students being dismissed at 11:55 am.

**August 24th:** District Mascot 5K Run/Walk

**August 30 and September 1:** No School - Labor Day Holiday

**September 6: Picture Day**

**September 16:** Keep Kinawa Moving Event

**Wednesday, August 21st students will start the school year.** Please know this will be a ½ day of school. School will run from 8:45 am - 11:55 am on Wednesday and we will not be serving lunch. Students are to report to their homeroom teachers. If your child is unable to attend the Kick Start Orientation, please have them come directly to the attendance office as they arrive at Kinawa. We will begin handing out packets to anyone who could not attend Kick Start at 8am.

On **Thursday, August 22nd** students will have their first full day of school.

### KICKSTART INFORMATION

**Kinawa's Kick Start Open House is Thursday August 15th, from 10am - 3pm!**

#### **Kinawa's Kick Start Program**

Kinawa is excited to offer an event for all Kinawa students and parents that provides important information to start the school year out successfully. Please understand that a parent or guardian must accompany students to this event.

#### **What:**

Kinawa's Kick Start Program

#### **When:**

Thursday, August 15, 2024

10am - 3pm

### Highlights

- All students will obtain their homeroom teacher placement as well as their locker number and combination
- Instrument Try-Outs/Fittings in music rooms (for all new Band and Orchestra students)
- Learn about club offerings at Kinawa for the 2024 - 2025 school year
- Get information on [bus routes and times](#)
- Refill your lunch account
- Find out about volunteer opportunities with [Kinawa's Parent Group](#)
- Drop off medication for the school year. [Medication Form needed](#)
- Learn additional information to help transition to Kinawa
- Purchase a Kinawa T-Shirt (optional). Shirts will be available at a table in the gymnasium. Cost is **\$15/T-shirt. Cash or checks** made out to Kinawa will be accepted.



If you are unable to attend August 15, your student's packet will be available the first day of school.

Lastly, please note that all students will receive their personal learning devices on Friday, August 23d during the school day. All returning students must return their old devices on this day to receive their new device.

## KINAWA'S ORIENTATION PRESENTATIONS

[5th Grade Orientation Presentation](#)

[6th Grade Orientation Presentation](#)

## SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

[5th Grade Supply List](#)

[6th Grade Supply List](#)

[Montessori Supply List](#)

## MEDICATION POLICY

Medication may not be taken at school unless a completed authorization form is on file in the main office. This policy includes both prescribed and non-prescribed medication.. Also, please be aware that the school does not provide any medications, i.e., aspirin or Tylenol. Please plan to drop off any medication to Shruti Gross in the main office during Kick Start. You must have completed paperwork for all medication. [Medication Form needed](#).

## WAIT UNTIL 8TH PROGRAM

Many Kinawa families are joining the Wait Until 8th program to delay smartphone access for kids. Wait Until 8th is a website where you can pledge to delay giving your child a smartphone and lets families rally together to help reduce peer pressure on kids and parents to get one. The pledge is just about smartphones; you can still participate in Wait Until 8th while letting your child have a basic phone or a smartwatch, so busy families can still easily coordinate and stay in touch while participating. To learn more about the pledge and how it works, reasons to consider participating, and about smartphone alternatives like basic phone options, visit [waituntil8th.org](http://waituntil8th.org) . To join the pledge, go to [waituntil8th.org](http://waituntil8th.org) , and select Kinawa School after choosing Michigan and Okemos (and for next school select Chippewa Middle School).

[Wait Until 8th Flyer](#)

[Wait Until 8th Parent Resource](#)

## OKEMOS FALL 2024 ARCHERY CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT

**Okemos Archery's Introduction to Archery Club Registration Link is Now Open (August 11-25)! Slots are limited and Filling Up Fast!**

Next month we will offer an Introduction to Archery Class for Okemos grade 5-12 students. This class is for students who have not participated in archery club before. Click the link below to pre-register your child for this class. This seven session introductory class will be held **September 24- October 3, 2024:**

- Grade 9-12= **5-6:00 PM**
- Grade 7 & 8= **6-7:00 PM**

- Grade 5 & 6= 7-8:00 PM

**Grade level shifts may occur due to enrollment numbers**

All sessions will be in the Kinawa Main Gym and will give kids the experience to decide if they would like to try out in November for the Okemos Archery Team. All equipment is provided. Registration closes Sunday, August 25, but we expect that this class could fill up quickly. Only 120 spots available.

**Dates:** 9/24, 9/25, 9/26, 9/30, 10/1, 10/2, 10/3

**Cost:** \$80 After Registration closes we will follow up with a confirmation email that will provide REVTRAK payment information for those that make it into each session.

**What's Included:** Registration includes Okemos Archery t-shirt *and* registration for the annual Okemos Archery Wolves Warmup 10 meter tournament at Kinawa School on Saturday, October 26!

[Registration Link for Okemos Intro to Archery Class](#)

Check us out @ <https://linktr.ee/okemosarchery>.



## SECURED VESTIBULES

[Secured Vestibules](#)

## FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

### FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Kinawa participates in the Weekend Survival Kits program which provides GROCERIES OVER THE WEEKEND, so families can focus more on other necessities.

Weekend Survival Kits provides supplemental kits of food to children at school every other Friday so they can have nutritious food during the weekend.

If you are a family that struggles with food insecurity, you are eligible to receive food kits at NO COST. Please contact counselor **Emily Edger**, [emily.edger@okemosk12.net](mailto:emily.edger@okemosk12.net) or (517) 706-4707 to register. If you have multiple children, you are eligible to receive multiple kits. All names will remain confidential.

## STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

### **Student Drop Off**

If you will be dropping your child off in the morning or picking them up, please make sure you use the large parking lot on the east side of Kinawa. **The loop in front of the school as well as the bus lane to the West of the school cannot be used for student drop off or pick up.**

We have over 750 students at Kinawa, therefore, we ask that you are patient as everyone learns the carline routine. Please know it is imperative everyone is patient and attentive to ensure every child is arriving and departing school safely each day.

## SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

### **School Supply List:**

You can find the suggested school supply list on our Kinawa Website. To find them, please go to the Okemos Public School Website. Click on Select a School in the upper right hand corner. Select Kinawa from the drop down menu. (I would recommend bookmarking this page) Once on the Kinawa website please choose the for parents drop down across the top. You will find many helpful items here including a school supply list.

Please understand that school supply lists are simply suggested items. Please be assured that your child will have access to all materials needed for learning. Some students like to bring materials of their own. If you have any need for school supply items please contact Mrs. Emily Edger or Ms. Tessa Marks, Kinawa's building counselors, at [emily.edger@okemosk12.net](mailto:emily.edger@okemosk12.net) or [tessa.marks@okemosk12.net](mailto:tessa.marks@okemosk12.net).

## CARLINE PROCEDURE

### **Carline Procedures at Kinawa**

- Students will exit the building through door #14 Door closest to the tennis courts
- Carline will be "airport loading" along the entire sidewalk area
- Any students choosing to not be picked up curbside will need to wait in the orange barricaded areas for parents to walk them across the parking lot.
- Our goal is to make the process quick for everyone while ensuring our students are safe.

## JOIN OUR TEAM!

Kinawa is currently looking for any individual who would be interested in being a lunchroom supervisor at Kinawa. These positions would be a great opportunity to interact with our students and staff. The position would be as many days as you would like a week between the hours of 11am - 1:30pm each day. Please contact [steven.stierley@okemosk12.net](mailto:steven.stierley@okemosk12.net) if you are interested in learning more about this position.

Finally, throughout the school year I will also be posting information on the Kinawa Twitter page @KinawaPrincipal for anyone who would be interested in following.

I look forward to a wonderful school year.

Please email me at [steven.stierley@okemosk12.net](mailto:steven.stierley@okemosk12.net) or call me at 517-706-4700 with questions or concerns.

Steve Stierley