

September 8, 2024

Hello Kinawa Families,

Our students have settled in, have found their new routines, and are doing well. As academic rigor continues to increase please have conversations each night with your child on what they did each day in school. Ask them to show you their google classrooms and discuss any classwork they may still need to finish.

We are 8 days away from our Annual Keep Kinawa Moving Event. Please see below for additional information.

UPCOMING DATES

September 11: NWEA Testing for all students (Mathematics)

September 16: Keep Kinawa Moving Event

September 20: OHS Homecoming

September 23: No School for students - Professional Development Day for Staff

KEEP KINAWA MOVING EVENT

Kinawa's annual Keep Kinawa Moving event is coming soon, **September 16th!** Please mark your calendars and join us for a day of fun and excitement. Please see the information below.

Hello Parents & Guardians,

Kinawa's annual fundraiser is fast approaching!! Keep Kinawa Moving (KKM) will take place on Monday, September 16th. Please read the attached [flyer](#). any questions feel free to reach out to me or any Kinawa Parent Group (KPG) board member.

Thank you for supporting our school!

Liz Luyendyk

KKM Chair

kinawapg@gmail.com

24/25 Kinawa Parent Group Board Members

George Nagle - President

Amy Burton - Vice President

Mike Callahan - Treasurer

Liz Luyendyk - Secretary

UNIVERSAL ACCOMMODATIONS

As a district we want to ensure all students are being set up to be as successful as possible while learning. Therefore, the Board of Education has approved the following list [Universal Accommodations](#) to best support ALL students at Kinawa.

CAPITAL AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY ANNOUNCEMENT

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, Kinawa 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**.

KINAWA PARENT GROUP INFORMATION

[Kinawa Parent Group Flyer](#)

KINAWA YEARBOOK ORDER

If you are interested in ordering your child a Kinawa Yearbook, Josten's has provided an opportunity to pre-order them now. Please understand yearbooks will not be ready prior to the spring.

Yearbook sales only link: <https://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A03854700>

A NOTE FROM THE ART ROOM

Hello,

My name is Mrs. Cronin and I am the 5th and 6th grade Art teacher. I am so excited to get to know your student this year! If you are interested in volunteering throughout the year, please email me at: jennifer.cronin@okemosk12.net to let me know. Occasionally, I will need help prepping supplies, an extra set of hands in the classroom, and preparing for the art show at the end of the school year.

I am taking donations of newspapers, small sturdy plastic bottles and plastic eggs at this time for an upcoming paper mache project. If you have any to contribute, students can bring them to school and drop them off in the art room (403). I will be updating an [Amazon Wishlist](#) throughout the year, if you would like to additionally help our budding artists in that way.

Finally, if your student is interested in joining the Art club, information will be sent out through the Kinawa newsletter in mid to late September, once we are in the swing of things. So keep your eyes open for that!

OKEMOS BASEBALL CLUB TRYOUT INFORMATION

Time to register for Okemos Baseball Club tryouts!

Okemos Baseball Club provides a fun baseball opportunity for those who are ready for a level of competition and skill development beyond recreational league baseball, but not ready to commit to a year-round travel baseball schedule.

Parents and guardians interested in being a part of the Okemos Baseball Club can sign up their eligible players through the online form below. We encourage you to share this information with your social network to help promote the opportunity to as many players as possible.

Register for tryouts by clicking [here to complete the Okemos Baseball Club 2024-25 Registration, Waiver and Release Form](#).

Tryout dates and times are as follows*:

- U13 & U14 Thursday, September 12 6-8 pm Hartrick Park
- U8, U9 & U10 Monday, September 16 6-8 pm Hartrick Park
- U11 & U12 Tuesday, September 17 6-8 pm Hartrick Park
- All Ages Make-Up Saturday, September 21 TBD Hartrick Park

* All tryouts will be held outdoors weather-permitting. Players should arrive at least 15 minutes early and be dressed and equipped to demonstrate their batting, throwing, and fielding abilities.

Baseball age cutoff for all age divisions is April 30. A baseball player's age as of 4/30/2025 will dictate the youngest age group they are eligible to play in during the 2025 season.

If your player has made a 2025 team roster, you will be notified by the coach by November 1. Indoor practices (limited to 1-2 hours per week) will begin January 2025 with the games and more outdoor practices occurring April through June or early July with details provided to you by your player's coach(es).

OBC Dues. Please be aware there is a per player fee for Okemos Baseball Club and if you have a new player who makes a team, the player will also need a new uniform. While we do our best to keep fees as low as possible, these player dues and uniform costs are determined after teams have been formed. For your consideration, the estimated per player fee for the 2025 OBC season may be approximately \$500.

For players newer to the game who may want to explore recreational-level play, please contact Okemos Community Education or Meridian Township to learn more about their spring baseball programs.

[OBC tryout information](#)

OKEMOS SOFTBALL CLUB TRYOUT INFORMATION

[Okemos Softball Club Tryout Information](#)
[Softball Flyer](#)

FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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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 or (517) 706-4707 to register. If you have multiple children, you are eligible to receive multiple kits. All names will remain confidential.

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 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 or call me at 517-706-4700 with questions or concerns.

Steve Stierley