

October 20, 2024

Hello Kinawa Families,

I would like to take a moment to reiterate that creating a safe learning environment for our students and staff is always our number one priority. This past week was a challenging one, filled with many rumors that all turned out to be unsubstantiated. In the event of such claims, each of these rumors are always taken very seriously and investigated alongside law enforcement, according to our Okemos Public Schools Threat Assessment Process. As a building, we try to communicate information to our community as soon as possible, however, we ask that all stakeholders remember that we are working with minors, and certain information cannot be shared.

I would also like to remind individuals that posting rumors without facts on social media only causes additional worry for families and adds additional time to the investigation process. We ask that you provide time for the process to be carried out so that facts can be gathered, the actual investigation can occur, and then accurate information can be shared with stakeholders in as timely of a manner as possible.

Below you will find information pertaining to upcoming events at Kinawa.

### UPCOMING DATES

**October 27:** Trunk or Treat Event

**November 1:** No School Professional Development Day for all Okemos Staff

**November 20:** OEF Annual Awards Banquet at Kellogg Center

**November 21:** 6th Grade Band Concert

**November 27-29:** No School Thanksgiving Break

### SOCKTOBER ANNOUNCEMENT

**Student Council:**

**It's that time of year again at Kinawa = SOCKTOBER!!**

Please join us in celebrating SOCKTOBER by donating new, or gently used, SOCKS! We are collecting socks in all colors, sizes, and styles starting on MONDAY, Oct. 21 - Friday, Oct 25th.

All socks donated at Kinawa will be donated to Child and Family Charities and we will happily also accept donations of hats, scarves, and gloves!

Boxes will be placed in Social Studies classrooms to accept donations.

Thank you, in advance, for your support and donations!

## MUSICAL THEATER WORKSHOP

"Mrs. Bellamy is excited to offer a Musical Theater Workshop this fall. Throughout the workshop students will focus on some elements of singing, dancing, staging, and acting in musical theater.

This workshop meets for 5 weeks from the middle of November through the middle of December. The goal of this workshop is to engage students in the joy and storytelling of musical theater with an emphasis on singing. All current Kinawa students are welcome to join regardless of what music class they are currently enrolled in.

The sessions will be on Tuesdays from 3:45-4:45 in the Kinawa Auditorium on the following dates: Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10 and 17.

**\*\*Weeks missed by students or school cancellation, will NOT be refunded or rescheduled. All enrolled students will be expected to be in the auditorium during the workshop.\*\***

Here is the link for enrollment- the cutoff for enrolling is the day that it begins (November 19th) simply click on the enrichment classes and then select Music Camp. <https://www.okemosonline.com/CourseActivities.aspx?id=19>"

[Musical Theater Workshop](#)

## PHASE ADVISORY BOARD VACANCIES

[Phase Advisory Board Information](#)

[Phase Board Application](#)

## ACCESS TO PRAYER SPACES

For many of our students, prayer and meditation are a part of everyday life. Reflection rooms provide a quiet, private space for OPS students to pray, meditate or sit in silent reflection. The reflection room at Kinawa is located in the main office conference room. To use this room, students should speak with Mr. Stierley or Mrs. Roland.

## YEARBOOK INFORMATION

**Link to buy a 2024/2025 Yearbook**

- [Buy a Yearbook](#)

**Community Photos Upload -**

Do you have pictures from Keep Kinawa Moving? From the 5th or 6th grade field trip? Athletic events? Please consider uploading them and they may be put in this year's yearbook.

- [Community Photos](#)

## Photo Guidelines for Community Photos

- All content is reviewed by yearbook staff. Anything inappropriate will be deleted.
- Don't use photos with filters, logos or hand gestures.
- Don't use screenshots - they are low resolution and not print quality.
- Don't use watermarked photos - get them from the source.

## SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

WOW! That's Engineering is an event designed to expose young women\* in grades 6-8 to the world of engineering through fun hands-on activities. Those attending the event will have the opportunity to gain a hands-on look at the different fields of engineering from a new perspective. All activities will be led by current MSU students studying engineering. The goal of this event is to show young women how diverse the field of engineering is and the different paths it can take them on.

The event will be held at the MSU Engineering Building on Saturday, November 9th, 2024 from 9:00am to 2:00pm. The event is free to all participants and a free snack, lunch and t-shirt will be provided! Space is limited to the first 80 participants, and the deadline to apply is Wednesday, October 16th.

Attached is a flyer with all the necessary information about the event, and the link to sign up online.

Here's the link to sign up:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wow-thats-engineering-tickets-1014595441277>

## REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CURRICULUM ANNOUNCEMENT

### Reproductive Health Curriculum

Each year all Kinawa students are taught a unit on Reproductive Health within the trimester of their scheduled Physical Education class. In preparation for the delivery of this curriculum, please review the following reproductive health information which includes an opt-out form for those interested in that option for your child.

[5th Grade Reproductive Health Information](#)

[6th Grade Reproductive Health Information](#)

## HALLOWEEN TRUNK OR TREAT

[Halloween Trunk or Treat Flyer](#) for Okemos Public Schools

Additionally the Safe Haven Assisted Living Facility on Jolly Road will be hosting a Trunk or Treat on Sunday October 27 from 1pm - 3pm. Residents will be passing out candy and have a Hot Cocoa and Hot Cider Bar with donuts for all.

## 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>

## 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](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.

## 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.

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