

December 2, 2024

Hello Kinawa Families,

I hope everyone had a tremendous holiday break and were able to create memories with the ones they love most. The three weeks between Thanksgiving Break and Winter Break is a very busy time of year filled with many concerts, NWEA testing, and student learning. Please consider joining us for one of our concerts as our students showcase their hard work and talent during the performances.

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

UPCOMING DATES

December 3: 6th and 8th grade Orchestra Concert at Chippewa Middle School

December 4: 5th and 7th grade Orchestra Concert at Chippewa Middle School

December 3: Winter NWEA Testing Mathematics

December 11: Winter NWEA Testing Reading

December 12: 5th Grade Band Concert at Okemos High School

December 23 - Jan 3 - Winter Break

OKEMOS MASONIC LODGE #252 BIKES FOR BOOKS PROGRAM

We are excited to announce that it is time for Bikes for Books again. The Okemos Masonic Lodge is sponsoring this wonderful program to celebrate reading and our students. Starting Nov 18th through May 16th students can submit forms to be entered into a drawing with a chance to win a new bike.

For every form students need to read 7 middle school age books and get a caregiver's signature. Forms are available in Kinawa Library and will be collected there and in the main office. There is no limit to the number of forms a student can turn in (as long as they read new titles for each form.)

Attached is a copy of the form with details about the program. Any questions can be directed to cyndi.webster@okemosk12.net

Thank you, Cyndi Webster

Guidelines for the Bikes for Books program:

- Ø **Program is for: Okemos & Haslett students grades three, four, five, & six.**
- Ø **Students must read seven books that are on/at their reading or grade level.**
- Ø **Parents will sign the entry forms submitted by their child.**
- Ø **For every seven books read, another entry application may be added to the contest.**
- Ø **Completed, signed forms are returned to the Student's teacher or either the Okemos or Haslett Public libraries for pick-up by an Okemos Masonic representative.**

Ø All students that meet the requirements and turn in a completed & signed form will be placed in a drawing for a bike and helmet. The drawing will be for one boy and one girl bike and helmet of the correct size.

Ø Program runs from November 18, 2024 through May 16, 2025

Ø Drawing entry deadline is 5:00 PM Friday May 16, 2025

[Bikes for Books](#)

REPORTING AN ABSENCE

If your child is going to be absent from school we ask that you let the school know. The easiest way to do this is to fill out this [Reporting an Absence form](#). School staff check it daily and are able to update your child's attendance through it.

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.

HANDICAP PARKING SPACES

Unfortunately we have noticed multiple individuals pulling into our handicap parking spaces during pick up and drop off times. Very often individuals using these designated parking spaces do not have proper permits to use these parking spaces. The result is that individuals who need to use these spaces, who have proper permits, are not able to do so.

Starting this week individuals parking in these spaces without a proper permit may be ticketed by the Meridian Township Police Department.

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](#)

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.

Please email me at steven.stierley@okemosk12.net or call me at 517-706-4700 with questions or concerns.

Steve Stierley