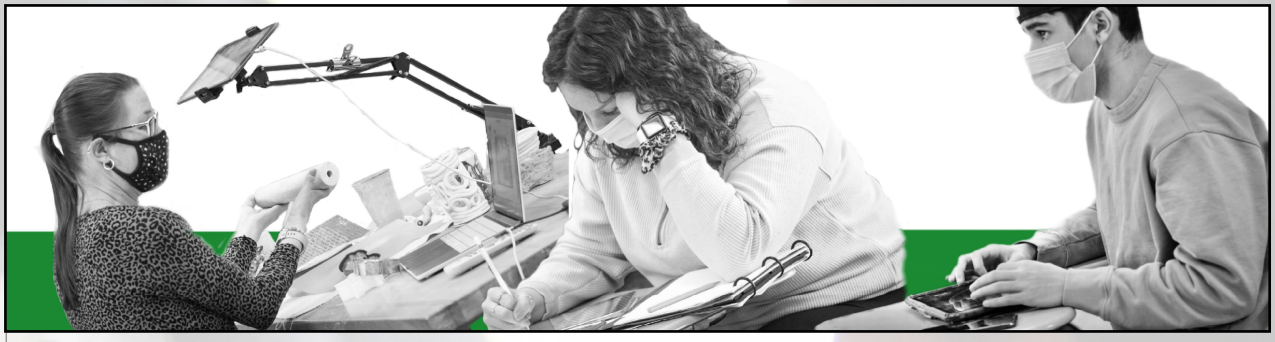
www.olchs.org

Oak Lawn Community High School

Empowered teachers who inspire empowered learners



Who We Are

1800 students

120 faculty members

Public

Grades 9-12

Apple Products in Use at OLCHS

- iPad
- Apple Pencil
- MacBook Pro
- iPad Pro
- AirPlay
- Apple TV
- Everyone Can Create
- Everyone Can Code

Distinguished School

Today

Oak Lawn Community High School envisions a school that develops future-ready citizens who:

- respect and embrace high standards of learning,
- strive to be responsible, engaged individuals of strong character,
- partner with our diverse communities,
- possess the skills and knowledge to innovate in the global economy.

Simply put, after four years, Spartans will be prepared for whatever is it they want to do when they graduate.

OLCHS had to re-imagine learning due to the global pandemic, and we were ready. Staff and students were able to easily pivot to provide meaningful experiences for our students. Our focus on providing universal access to students, encouraging creativity and problem solving allowed us to seamlessly pivot from in-person to remote learning.

PANDEMIC LEARNING AT OLCHS

Shannon talks about how she successfully adjusted her learning

Seniors were celebrated in an interactive book of Senior "Porch"-traits.

The Music Department virtually replicated their curriculum night pitch

Students produced the first fully virtual school play.

Our Vision

As an urban school, Oak Lawn Community High School students are diverse in many ways, including their race, gender, religion and socioeconomic backgrounds. We appreciate and embrace this diversity and realize the challenges that it presents for our students. Our staff equalizes the playing field for all students, and the use of 1:1 technology and Apple products has allowed that to happen.

School leaders encourage teachers to stretch the bounds of their creativity to create opportunities for students to express what they know in innovative and complex ways.

Continuous professional development provides teachers with the skills and tools needed to integrate 1:1 technology into the curriculum and provides support to maximize their potential.

Learning

Although 1:1 technology has changed the way students learn at OLCHS, our teachers have embraced a school-wide emphasis on higher order thinking skills, a focus on Depth of Knowledge (DOK), content-rich student to student talk, and fostered deep engagement through the SAMR framework. Teachers set the stage and they empower students to learn in ways that matter and allow them to express themselves and who they are.

- Music students created virtual ensembles during remote and hybrid learning. Teachers used Keynote as a launchpad, and students put their own spin on playing together while apart.

- Students have autonomy during class to take notes in ways that most make sense to them. Biology students were able to personalize their learning through Sketchnoting.

- Students explored social justice issues in English class and created protest songs using GarageBand.

- Our students used stop-motion animation to produce the first fully virtual school play

Our learning environment is suited for collaboration with Apple TV and flexible furniture in classrooms.

To take a leadership role in our school, students can enroll in a credit-bearing internship program that puts them to work in customer service while offering the latest training in Apple technology. The team offers a wide-range of services for students and staff from assisting with battery issues to exploring new apps to cracked screens. As schools closed in March 2020, this organized peer support structure allowed us to hit the ground running with remote learning.

iTeam



What's Next

With 52% of our students electing to stay home and learn remotely during the global pandemic, we had to adapt the ways we engage with students.

Teachers already feel empowered to reimagine the way they design instruction by incorporating drones, augmented reality, and flipping their classrooms to reach students in new, technology-rich ways that meet them where they are and empower them for whatever their own "next" may be.

A major post-pandemic focus for us is ensuring college and career readiness through industry credentials and early college credits. Apple technologies will allow our students to connect with these opportunities remotely. OLCHS will continue to find ways to engage and empower students while exploring the limitless possibilities of blended learning.

Success

In 2018-2019, we collaborated on an ADS Apple Research Project with AppleEDU staff/SAMR pioneer Dr. Ruben Puentedura; after developing data collection tools, we observed science curricula at various levels of technology integration to answer the query "What is the relationship between lessons incorporating higher SAMR levels and student to student interaction?"

In our latest Apple Learning Technologies Survey, we saw growth in a multitude of categories, most notably an 8.8% growth in student-to-student interaction and a 12.7% in student ability to remain on task.

We also shifted to a yearly school climate survey; after full adoption of Apple technologies, from 2016 to 2019 the overall number of dimensions rated as positive grew from 65.7% to 80%.