



# The Cornell Chronicles

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE  
CORNELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

## IMPORTANT DATES

**EARLY DISMISSAL (1:52 PM)**

May 17

**NO SCHOOL**

May 29 Memorial Day

## IMPORTANT LINKS

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[LUNCH MENU](#)

[CORNELL STAFF DIRECTORY](#)

[GLOBAL CORNELL INFORMATION](#)

[OEF GOLF FUNDRAISER](#)

[CORNELL MSTEP SCHEDULE](#)

[22-23 YEARBOOK ORDER](#)

[MILEAGE CLUB](#)

## CONTACTS

Cornell Elementary School

4371 Cornell Rd.

Okemos, MI 48864

517.706.5300

**Tracy Ojerio, Principal**

[tracy.ojerio@okemosk12.net](mailto:tracy.ojerio@okemosk12.net)

**Jennifer Darjes, Admin. Assistant**

[jennifer.darjes@okemosk12.net](mailto:jennifer.darjes@okemosk12.net)

**Nisreen Abulibdeh, Clerk**

[nisreen.abulibdeh@okemosk12.net](mailto:nisreen.abulibdeh@okemosk12.net)



## A Message from the Principal

During this time of year, many parents call or write to the school regarding their child's class placement for next year. The ultimate goal of the placement process is to find the best possible placement to set all students up for success. Class placement is a complex process that involves the input of many educational professionals and considers many factors, which may include, but are not limited to social-emotional well-being, academic needs, therapies, classroom structure, specialized programming, and medical needs. Although I appreciate and value parent/guardian input regarding your child's individual needs, I will not honor parent requests for specific teachers. I will consider any concerns or input you would like to share on the [Parent Input Form](#) before April 27. I appreciate your understanding and support in this process.

~Mrs. Ojerio, Principal

## Cornell Elementary Information

### School Hours

Full Day: 8:50am-3:47pm

Half Day: 8:50am-12:02pm

Early Release: 8:50am-1:52pm

### PTO Information

Our next PTO Meeting will be held on **May 17** from **6-7pm** in the Library! Learn more @ the [Cornell PTO Website](#)

"Together...educating with excellence,  
inspiring each learner for life."

# News and Updates

## Wolf of the Week!

Congratulations to our Cornell Wolves who were acknowledged for being a shining example of what it means to be Respectful, Responsible, and Safe!

### April 14

**K:** Mayukha T, Lena Z, Akshaya G & Suhana Y.

**1:** Simon B, Hazel K, Aleyah W, & Rayan B.

**2:** Kaavya VK, Zach C, Penelope E, Ruby C, & Emmie K.

**3:** Madelyn G, Aashritha A, & Selina R.

**4:** Anika M, Aarnav B, Megha P, & Triston W.

## Golden Spoon Awards

Congratulations, Cornell Wolves! You are being recognized for excellent Cafeteria behavior:

**K:** Mrs. Petersburg's Class!

**1:** Mrs. Hall's Class!

**2:** Mrs. Hughey's Class!

**3:** Mrs. Hixson's Class!

**4:** Mrs. Sinila's Class!



## April Character Trait

### Integrity

At Cornell Elementary, integrity means doing what is right even if it is difficult or no one is monitoring you! We use integrity when we turn in items we find that do not belong to us, make the right choice when our friends are not, or choose to be truthful if no one is there to see a choice we make.

### DEI Tidbits

Happy Earth Day! National Geographic Kids tells us that "The first Earth Day was celebrated in 1970, when a United States senator from Wisconsin organized a national demonstration to raise awareness about environmental issues. Rallies took place across the country and, by the end of the year, the U.S. government had created the Environmental Protection Agency. By 1990, Earth Day was an event celebrated by more than 140 countries around the globe."

To read more about the history of Earth Day, visit [this National Geographic Kids page](#).



# Earth Day Clean Up: Cornell

On April 19th, Cornell Staff, students, and PTO members rolled up their sleeves and gathered in the outdoor classroom!



It looks absolutely amazing! Many, many thanks to Nicki Berridge & Joanna Purkiss for coordinating our efforts to bring much-needed positive energy and beauty into this space for our school community.



# News and Updates

(continued)



## Student Spotlight

Our Kindergarten and 4th grade classes enjoyed learning in a different space on Tuesday, April 18th during Kindergarten Round Up! So proud of the way they transitioned for the day! They were respectful, kind and great listeners for their guest teachers and our volunteers! It was simply an amazing day, all around!

3rd and 4th grade students worked hard last week on our MSTEP State Assessment in ELA! Hats off to all for giving your best effort. This week we begin the Math portion of the assessment and we know that you will ROCK it!

Shout out to several 3rd grade students who worked together to clean up our track! They filled 2 HUGE bags with trash and debris! Thank you very much, Libby, Hazel, Ekam, Margaret, and Kaila!

Shout out to all K-4 students for their excellent choices in the hallways, our focus area last week! Thank you for always walking, following the expectations, and being safe-even when no one is looking! We appreciate you!

Keep up the great work, Wolves!



## 2022 Bond Updates

We are pleased to share the most recent update as it relates to the 2022 Bond program.

The bond [website](#) has been updated and will be regularly updated through the bond program. The website provides information about each project as well as the latest [newsletter](#).

Please check out the progress!

## OEF Golf Outing

Join the Okemos Education Foundation for its inaugural golf fundraiser to be held on:

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023

The deadline to register is May 15th!

[Event Information](#)

## District Policy

The Board of Education conducts ongoing review of existing and proposed new policies as they relate to current educational practice. It is the practice of the board to give all policies, new or changed, first reading at a public meeting, with final action taken no sooner than one month from the date of the first reading. New or changed policies are posted to this page on the OPS website following the first reading.

Comments or concerns may be emailed to the Board of Education ([board@okemosk12.net](mailto:board@okemosk12.net)) prior to the "Date to be Adopted."

# OPS Happenings

## Thank you from OMP

Thank you one and all for your enthusiastic participation and for helping Okemos Music Patrons revive this cherished tradition and bring it back into the life of our community. This year, we raised over \$40,000 for Okemos K-12 music programs. On March 9th, Okemos High School was vibrant with youthful energy, filled with incredible music, all accompanied by a delicious spaghetti meal. We feel positively refreshed and strengthened as a community with our first in-person event in three years!

## Bravo, Musicians!



From Beethoven to the Backstreet Boys, Okemos music students rocked the house! Congratulations and thank you to the talented students and teachers for outstanding concerts and for entertaining us with a variety of beautiful classical, jazz and contemporary music throughout the evening. The lively performances showcased the excellent music programs throughout the district— Kinawa band, orchestra and choir groups took us “over the rainbow” in the auditorium, Chippewa and OHS jazz bands kept up the high energy in the cafeteria, and OHS chamber ensembles welcomed people with lovely classical strains in the hallways.

Thank You, Community Leaders and Business Sponsors!

To view more photos and learn about our sponsors visit:

<http://okemosmusicpatrons.org/>