



OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL

Bi-Monthly Newsletter for the Okemos High School Community

IMPORTANT DATES

FINAL EXAMS & HALF DAYS

JUNE 7:

1ST HOUR: 7:45 AM - 9:15 AM
2ND HOUR: 9:25 AM - 10:55 AM

JUNE 8:

3RD HOUR: 7:45 AM - 9:15 AM
4TH HOUR: 9:25 AM - 10:55 AM

JUNE 9:

5TH HOUR: 7:45 AM - 9:15 AM
6TH HOUR: 9:25 AM - 10:55 AM



IMPORTANT LINKS

click these:

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK](#)

[PARENT GROUP](#)

Okemos High School Community,

We did it! It is amazing to me all that we have accomplished together this year! And, what a year it has been. It really was the best of times and the worst of times, huh? And through it all we stuck together, and I am so happy that our seniors could experience at least one "normal" (said with a grain of salt) school year!

I've learned some things over the course of the year: Our community really cares about academics and the success of our kids, which is great! I also learned that we need to probably relax a little bit, too. That's fair, right? I learned that I have incredibly dedicated teachers and staff. I learned that changing systems that have been in place for decades is difficult work, but not impossible; consequently, I've learned that some people really embrace new possibilities and some people fear change. Both are ok! We can do anything we put our minds to as a team. I learned that some people don't like to hear the word, "no;" some people are ok with "no" when a good rationale is applied.

Most importantly, I learned that we have almost impossibly talented students: athletes, scholars, artists, musicians, actors, and the list goes on and on. I am constantly amazed at how talented my students are! I am so impressed with how kind they can be. Granted, they are still teenagers and make some questionable decisions, but by and large I am very pleased with our students! We have an excellent school and a fantastic school community. Let's be honest, we can improve in some areas (we can always improve) and we will. I am confident in your support and I hope that you continue to have confidence in my leadership. Your support this year has really helped...it seems every week I get a phone call, email, or Instagram message (lol) of encouragement. Thank you!

I love my ALL of my students and staff. Together, we will have an even better year next year. So for now, thank you for an incredible first year for me here at OHS. I'm really excited to have my son, Jack, here next year. I cannot wait to see what the future holds for Okemos High School. I want to thank you for your support. As always, I am very proud of my students and our school. Have a great summer and reach out if you need me!

HAPPY SUMMER!

- Dr. Kemsley

CONTACT INFO:

Dr. Daniel Kemsley

Principal

Daniel.Kemsley@okemosk12.net
(517) 706-4901

Mrs. Allison Cironi

Assistant Principal

10th and 12th Grade Students
Allison.Cironi@okemosk12.net
517-706-4905

Dr. Joseph Schmidt

Assistant Principal

9th and 11th Grade Students
Joseph.Schmidt@okemosk12.net
517-706-4903

Tempie Brown

Athletic Director

Tempie.Brown@okemosk12.net
517-706-4935



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



NHS REMINDER

June 5th - Mandatory Active Member Meeting in OHS Auditorium @7:15am - 36 hours due for those who have been active members all school year. Those inducted on April 19th must also attend.

QUESTIONS SHOULD BE EMAILED TO NHS.OKEMOS@OKEMOSK12.NET

FROM THE OFFICE OF DR. SLEE

Interested in learning more about equity? Join United Way for Southeastern Michigan for the [21-Day Equity Challenge](#) (May 19-June 16). Starting on May 19, participants will receive email prompts with materials that explore how inequity plays a role in our social and economic landscape. You're encouraged to take at least 15 minutes each day to explore the day's topic and act on what you've learned. The 21-Day Equity Challenge is free to participate and open to anyone. Some of the topics include foundations of equity; personal racial & social identity; impacts of systematic inequity across Southeastern Michigan; local community organizations sharing their stories; and being anti-racist & furthering your equity journey. Sign up today at UnitedWaySEM.org/EquityChallenge.

Memorial Day is the last Monday in May, and it is a day of remembrance of those who died in service to our country. It was first widely observed in 1868 in recognition of Civil War soldiers. For more information, check out [The Origins of Memorial Day](#) (US Department of Veteran Affairs) and [The History of Memorial Day](#) (PBS).

The United States' military branches have historically not represented the diversity found within our country, but they have gradually become more inclusive over time. To learn about the Army's journey toward more diversity and inclusion, visit the [US Army Center of Military History's website](#). Also, the [Department of Defense Board on Diversity and Inclusion Report](#) (2020) has specific recommendations to improve racial and ethnic diversity and inclusion in the US military.

BOND INFORMATION

For further information regarding the 2022 bond, including updates and information regarding each project, please visit <https://www.okemosbond.net/>.

EMERGENCY CARD UPDATE

The Returning Student Emergency Update Code (SnapCode) for the 2023-24 school year will NOT be sent at the start of this school year. We are implementing a new Student Information Update Form that will be introduced at the start of the new school year. Instruction links will be posted on start-up newsletters, and on the OPS website under Families/PowerSchool Portal. Stay tuned...

COUNSELING INFORMATION

Not interested in keeping your Cap & Gown after commencement? Counselors are accepting Cap & Gown donations from the Class of 2021 and beyond. Please drop them off in the main office.

BOARD POLICY INFORMATION

The Board of Education conducts ongoing reviews 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, a first reading at a public meeting, with final action taken no sooner than one month from the date of first reading.

New or changed policies are posted to [this page](#) on the OPS website following first reading.

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

STAFF LUNCHEON: HELP NEEDED

Please join us in celebrating OHS teachers and staff with their end-of-the-year Staff Luncheon on June 8, 2023. Everyone looks forward to this highlight event every year because of your delicious and diverse foods. Please sign up as soon as possible to help us plan this event for next week. Should you have any questions, you can reach us at OHSParentGroupInfo@gmail.com or message us through our Facebook page "Okemos High School Parent Group". Thanks in advance.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0949a8ac22a6fdc25-staffl#/>

Fall 2023 Important Information



Kick Start 2023-2024

<p><u>Bennett Woods Elementary</u> August 16, 2023 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm</p>	<p><u>Cornell Elementary</u> August 17, 2023 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm</p>	<p><u>Hiawatha Elementary</u> August 16, 2023 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm</p>	<p><u>Okemos Public Montessori</u> August 17, 2023 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm</p>
<p><u>Kinawa 5-6 School</u> August 17, 2023 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm</p>		<p><u>Chippewa Middle School</u> August 17, 2023 9:00 am- 11:30 am & 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm</p>	
<p><u>Okemos High School</u></p>			
<p>Kick Start/Drops & Adds Seniors: August 10, 9:00 am -11:30 am Juniors: August 10, 12:30 pm -3:00 pm Sophomores: August 11, 9:00 am -11:30 am Freshman: August 11, 12:30 pm -3:00 pm</p>		<p>Open House August 24, 2023 Parent Meeting: 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm Open House: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm</p>	

The following OPS resources will be on-site to answer any questions.

- District Nurse & Health Team- all buildings
- Food Service- all buildings
- Transportation- K-6 buildings
- Media and Technology- 5-12 buildings



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