



OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL

Bi-Monthly Newsletter for the Okemos High School Community

IMPORTANT DATES



SENIOR AWARDS
MAY 16TH 7-9

ARTIST: SARAH LEE



GRADUATION
MAY 21ST
AT THE BRESLIN CENTER

ARTIST: DANNY ACKERMAN

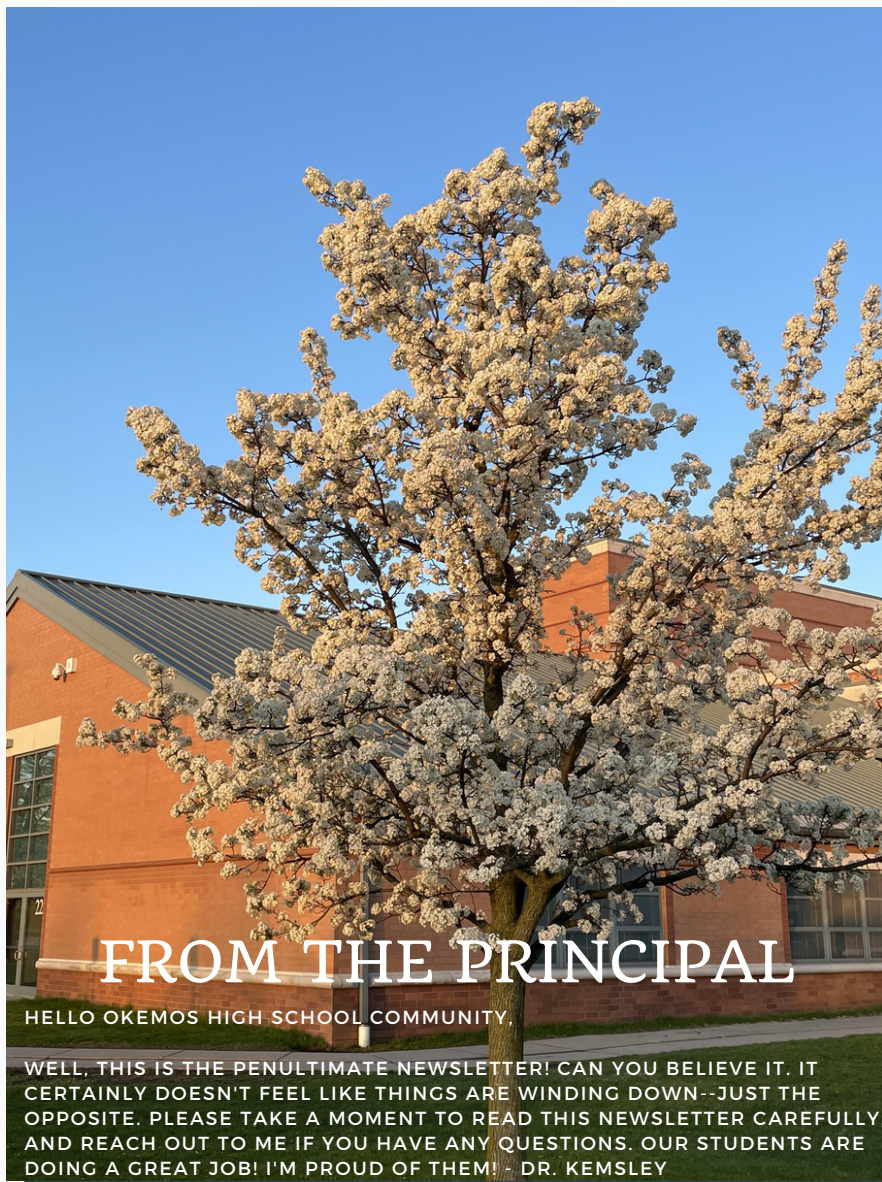
IMPORTANT LINKS

click these:

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK](#)

[PARENT GROUP](#)



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

HELLO OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY,

WELL, THIS IS THE PENULTIMATE NEWSLETTER! CAN YOU BELIEVE IT. IT CERTAINLY DOESN'T FEEL LIKE THINGS ARE WINDING DOWN--JUST THE OPPOSITE. PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO READ THIS NEWSLETTER CAREFULLY, AND REACH OUT TO ME IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS. OUR STUDENTS ARE DOING A GREAT JOB! I'M PROUD OF THEM! - DR. KEMSLEY

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

IMPORTANT SENIOR DATES AND INFORMATION

The OHS Community Calendar is on our website and also linked [here](#). We are looking forward to celebrating our amazing senior class! "One stop shopping" doc linked below!

LINK TO ALL SENIOR DATES CLICK HERE



- May 13 - Senior Prom
- May 15 - Senior Skip Day
- May 16 - Senior Project Day
- May 16, 7 pm- Senior Award Night / Athletic Awards
- May 17- Senior Project Rain Day
- May 18 - Seniors' Last Day;
- *ALL WORK DUE***
- May 21 - Graduation at the Breslin Center

IMPORTANT SENIOR PROJECT INFORMATION

If your senior signed up for the Senior Service Project for May 16th, please make sure they submit their permission form and participation fee as soon as possible. Both may be submitted to Mr. Walton in the Counseling Office.

OHS PROM

A MIDNIGHT MASQUERADE

OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL 2023



Cr: Art-Gold-Beauté

DATE
Saturday, May 13th, 20

TIME
6:00 - 10:30 PM
You **MUST** arrive between 5:45 - 6:15 PM

LOCATION
Eagle Eye Golf Club:
5500 Chandler Rd #3,
Bath Twp, MI 48808

TICKETS
Sold: April 14-28th
Cost: \$75 per person
Online QR Code:

ADDITIONAL INFO

- The price of tickets includes dinner this year
- Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM
- There are **NO** refunds for Prom **AND** Post Prom
- Please see your counselor for financial aid

POST PROM

- 11 PM - 2 AM. You **MUST** arrive between 10:30 PM - 12 AM
- OHS Gym
- \$25 per person
- Attendance to Prom is not required to attend Post Prom



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

SPANISH SUMMER FIELD TRIP INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Hola! Are you a Spanish student interested in traveling to Ecuador and The Galapagos in June 2024? If so, please join Señorita Funk for an informational meeting on **TUESDAY, May 16th** @ 6 pm in B116. Information about the trip, including the cost, will be available at the meeting! Gracias!!

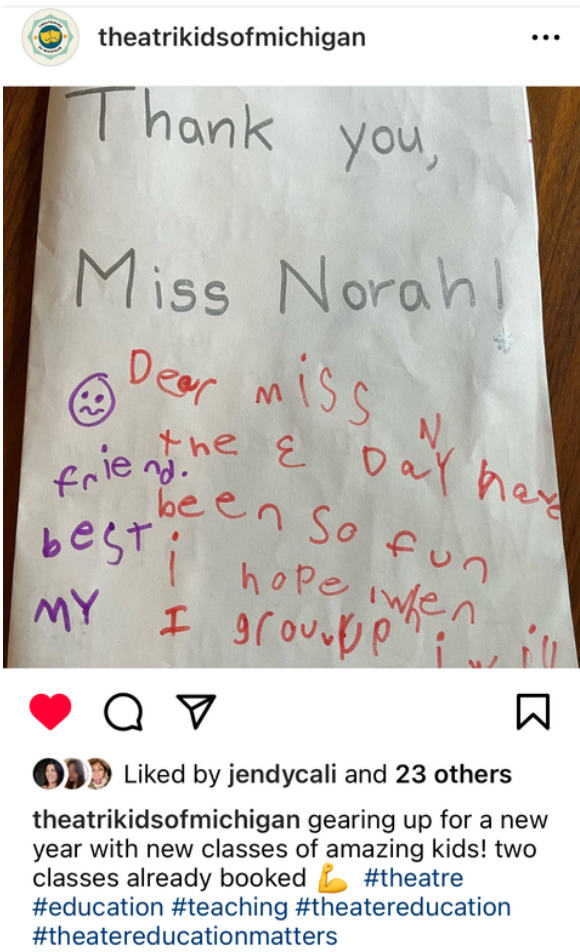
COUNSELING INFORMATION

AP Testing begins on May 1. All students testing should check their email for important information that was sent from Mrs. Cari Thomas. Students should plan to arrive at testing 30 minutes before the official start time. No phones or bags are allowed in testing rooms.

[Check out the list of available scholarships](#)

STUDENT CELEBRATION

In October 2021, Junior Norah Logan saw a need for children in our community to have greater access to theater and a creative outlet to express themselves. She created the program, Theatrikids of Michigan, with the goal of introducing children to theater and helping them learn to be confident. Over the last year and a half, Norah has worked directly with over 100 children in our community through her theater/improv program and has worked with multiple 2nd-grade classes at Hiawatha. If interested in following along with Norah's journey, or learning more about Theatrikids of Michigan, please visit the Instagram page pictured below. Keep up the great work, Norah!



FROM THE OFFICE OF DR. SLEE

National Geographic Kids tell 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](#).

Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month is observed annually in May to celebrate the contributions that generations of AAPIs have made to American history, society, and culture. Asian/Pacific encompasses all of the [Asian continent](#) and the Pacific islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia (including the Hawaiian Islands). Check out the [Asian Pacific American Heritage Month](#) web site for more information. May is the month in which Japanese immigrants first came to the US in 1843 and in which the transcontinental railroad was completed in 1869 (most of the workers laying the track were Chinese immigrants). PBS has a collection of documentaries and programs to celebrate the history and contributions of AANHPI people.

Also in May, celebrate Jewish American Heritage Month by learning more about the Jewish community and its history. On its website, the [Jewish American Heritage Collection](#) "provides over 400 public television and radio programs from 1945 to 2017 that focus on social, cultural, and religious aspects of Jewish life in America. Programs profile diverse Jewish communities in a variety of locales and address subjects relevant to many American Jews, such as anti-Semitism, the Holocaust, Israel, intermarriage, the political impact of Jewish voters, the campaign to free Soviet Jews, and relations between American Jews and African Americans."

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."

CLUB AND COMMUNITY NEWS

HOSTED BY
FRIENDS OF PARK LAKE &
TCBA YOUTH CYCLING CLUB

PARK LAKE FAMILY BIKE RIDE

WISWASSER PARK
SATURDAY, JUNE 10
10:00 AM

\$5/rider suggested donation

Sponsored by:
Tri-County Bicycle Association

Cash or checks payable to Friends of Park Lake will accepted on the day of ride. All proceeds will go to Friends of Park Lake

Registration Link:
<https://tinyurl.com/5cvytf5c>

Explore Bath Fun and Safe
3 Routes
Fundraiser
FREE

Tri-County Bicycle Association (TCBA) is a 501(c)(4) social welfare organization and not a charitable organization as defined by the IRS. Generally, payments to a 501(c)(4) organization are not tax deductible by the payee. Please consult your tax advisor for additional guidance.


NHS UPDATES

As we wind down this school year, please note that the mandatory meeting that was scheduled for June 7th has been **MOVED** to **Monday, June 5th** to avoid conflicts with final exams. Please see the details below.

Reminders:

- **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



OKEMOS ROBOTICS

DESPERATE PENGUINS NEWSLETTER

MAY 1, 2023

KINAWA SCIENCE NIGHT

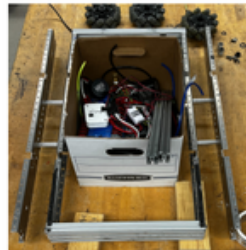
After a successful night at Hiawatha, the team once again brought out Chuck and Kowalski to Kinawa, putting on a frisbee-flinging, penguin-inspired display! Students were given the opportunity to drive Chuck around and "chuck" around frisbees at their fellow (willingly participating) classmates! The team had a great time talking to students and parents and we are looking forward to coming back next year!

Also, stay on the lookout for a FIRST Lego League Team at Kinawa next year!



NEW FRAMEBOT?

With the end of our competition season and the beginning of our offseason, the team has begun working on new projects, such as this brand new robot! Using scrapped parts from previous years, the underclassmen are now putting together a new chassis for future use in teaching new members and demonstrations. Additionally, it will serve as good preparation for the 2024 competition season. Currently, only the metal frame has been assembled, but in the coming weeks, we plan to add the motors, wheels, and wiring, which would allow the robot to drive!



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



Sidock Group, Inc.
ENGINEERS • ARCHITECTS • CONSULTANTS • PROJECT MANAGERS



Any questions? Feel free to reach out to us at 1504robotics@gmail.com

OHS THEATRE DEPARTMENT presents

The Wizard of Oz

May 5-6 @ 7:00 pm | May 7 @ 2:00 pm
You're not going to want to miss this Okemos community event that is fun for the whole family! Purchase tickets at okemostheatre.com or scan the QR code.



CMS MONTESSORI ANNUAL PLANT AND FLOWER SALE

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
MAY 13, 14, 20, 21

10 A.M. - 3 P.M.



CMS GREENHOUSE

BOND UPDATES



Our mission: *Together... educating with excellence, inspiring each learner for life.*

BOND UPDATE

Planning and design is underway for Okemos bond projects

March 31, 2023

With the passing of the 2022 bond, the Okemos Public Schools district, along with The Veridus Group, TowerPinkster, and The Christman Company, have been working diligently to implement promises made to the community. Since the bond passed, this core team has conducted benchmarking tours, hosted regular meetings to review design concepts, evaluated and reconciled budgets, identified potential logistical challenges, and established each project's safety and security priorities.

An update was recently provided to the Board of Education outlining the first projects to be addressed with an initial draw of \$10 million in bond funds. The design team reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the Board and District Leadership while highlighting the significant and ongoing professional and student engagement. Lastly, a timeline tool was shared which guides the community through the design process.

The timeline shown below will be customized for each project to share the design status, communicate project milestones, and prepare the community for anticipated construction activity.

The first projects addressing secure vestibules, pressing needs, and high school athletics are underway and currently in the construction document phase. Progress will be shared at the Board's meeting in April before going to bid and, ultimately, construction.

Engagement Matters

Throughout the design and construction process. The core team has formed several stakeholder committees to address topics ranging from a more secure front entry to food service, athletics, and performing arts. In addition, students at Kinawa and Chippewa were recently invited to participate in a survey to share their unique perspectives. The team seeks to engage as many staff and student voices as possible to ensure the design and construction of each building/phase addresses Okemos' diverse, critical needs.

We continue to monitor how the bond projects will impact our Okemos community. Given the renovation and construction at school building throughout summer 2023, visitors should expect the following impacts:

Okemos Public Montessori at Central

Temporary Location for Admin Offices through fall 2023

Edgewood Child Care Center

Temporary Drop off location starting 6/3

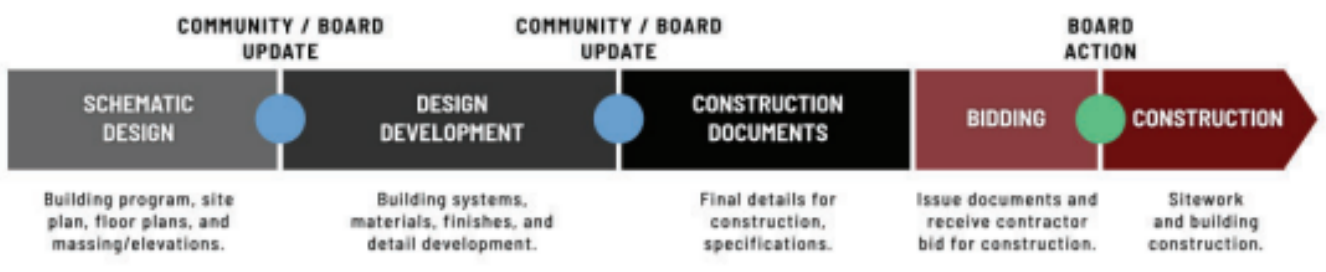
High School Athletics

Temporary Construction Access through Fall 2023

Chippewa Middle School Recreation Fields

No impact for 2023, however, impacts are expected for 2024

Proposed Design Phase Schedule





OHS Parent Group Updates

- **Parent Group 2023-2024 Executive Board!** Positions are President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. We have nominees for Treasurer and Secretary, but we still need President and Vice President candidates. If you are interested in a position, please let us know as soon as possible. Voting for new board members will take place at our last meeting on May 26th.
- **Volunteers and donations for Post Prom!** The Seniors were freshmen when schools shut down due to the pandemic, and our Juniors were the first to start their freshmen year online. It has been a high school experience like no other. We need all parents/guardians to unite to celebrate them! Please sign up as soon as possible to make this an unforgettable event. Post Prom is Sat., May 13th. That's just two weeks away!
 - This sign up is specifically for prize donations for the Giveaway drawing at Post Prom:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949A8AC22A6FDC25-post>
 - This sign up is for food donations and volunteers to work at Post Prom:
[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0949a8ac22a6fdc25-post1#/#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0949a8ac22a6fdc25-post1#/)
- **Post Prom ticket sales closed on Friday, April 28th at 11:59 pm.** Only OHS Juniors and Seniors were permitted to purchase tickets. If you are an underclassman (9th or 10th grade) and you purchased your own ticket online, you must have your Junior/Senior host email (see below) Parent Group prior to the event to confirm that they have invited you as their guest. Underclassmen are not allowed to attend Post Prom without a Junior/Senior host.
- **Details for Post Prom:**
 - Post Prom is a casual event that takes place right after Prom on May 13th, 11 pm – 2 am, at Okemos High School. Check-in starts at 10:30 pm inside the Student Lot doors and gym doors open for Post Prom at 11:00 pm. You must check in by midnight; no entry is allowed after that. A photo ID is required for all attendees.
 - Attire: Super comfortable casual/athletic wear. Change out of Prom wear and remove jewelry prior to arrival.
 - Post Prom, just like Prom, allows for non-OHS guests. However, non-OHS guests must have an approved guest form on file prior to the event (the same form is required for Prom).
 - Tickets are non-transferable, and all sales are final.
 - You must be present at the time of the drawing to win a Giveaway Prize.
 - Once you leave Post Prom, there is no re-entry.
- **All the fun you can expect at Post Prom:** 3 hours of large inflatables (obstacle course, defender, gaga ball, etc.), casino area (blackjack, poker, and roulette – no cash, just fun chips), 9-hole mini golf, ping pong, photo booth, games (giant Jenga, axe throwing, battle lights, etc.), snacks galore, and the Giveaway prize drawing.
- If you'd like to make a monetary donation to help fund Post Prom or any of our remaining events, you can write a check to OHS Parent Group and drop it off at our mailbox in the main office, or you can make an online donation through the school's payment system **[HS Parent Group | Okemos Public Schools \(revtrak.net\)](#)** Use this link and donate through the school's online payment processing system. Any amount is appreciated and will go directly to supporting and recognizing students and staff.

You can email us at OHSParentGroupInfo@gmail.com or join us on Facebook "Okemos High School Parent Group."

Meetings take place at 9:00 am in the Counseling classroom at OHS on the following Fridays:
May 26, 2023

Thank you for your support!