



# OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL

OCTOBER 1, 2023  
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OHS NEWSLETTER. Published on the 1st and 15th each month.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Kickball Tournament**  
Monday, October 2nd

*Cancelled!  
low participation*

**Bonfire**  
Tuesday, October 3rd

**Homecoming Parade/Game:**  
Friday, October 6th

**Homecoming Dance:**  
Saturday, October 7th

HOMECOMING WEEK	
<b>MONDAY:</b> OCTOBER 2ND	<b>DISNEY DAY</b> Kickball: 5:30pm (Marwick Park)
<b>TUESDAY:</b> OCTOBER 3RD	<b>DECADES DAY</b> Bonfire: 7-9pm (next to tennis courts) **ALL guest tickets must be bought & guest forms are due TODAY!
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b> OCTOBER 4TH	<b>WOLFPACK DAY</b> *Must purchase class t-shirt online by 9:00pm
<b>THURSDAY:</b> OCTOBER 5TH	<b>BEACH DAY</b> *Pick up class t-shirts @ lunch if you purchased online.
<b>FRIDAY:</b> OCTOBER 6TH	<b>CLASS T-SHIRT DAY</b> Pep Assembly - 6th hour Parade: 5:30pm Game: 7:00pm
<b>SATURDAY:</b> OCTOBER 7TH	Dance 8-11pm OHS Cafeteria: Enter by student lot All students must enter by 9pm MUST BRING STUDENT ID

See email for more info, specifics & links

## IMPORTANT LINKS

click these:

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[PARENT GROUP](#)

[BOND UPDATES](#)

## CONTACT INFO:

Dr. Daniel Kemsley  
Principal  
daniel.kemsley@okemosk12.net  
517.706.4901

Allison Cironi  
Assistant Principal Grades 9/11  
allison.cironi@okemosk12.net  
517.706.4905

Dr. Joseph Schmidt  
Assistant Principal Grades 10/12  
joseph.schmidt@okemosk12.net  
517.706.4903

Ken Hintze  
Athletic Director  
ken.hintze@okemosk12.net  
517.706.4930

## OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY,

We had a great couple of weeks since our last newsletter. Homecoming week is upon us! I would like to thank Lindsay Harrod, Trisha Funk, Katie Seidl, Olivia Becker, and Stacy Christensen (class advisors) for all of the hard work they have put in to make this a great week. THANK YOU! Late breaking news: the kickball tournament has been cancelled due to low participation. We'll think of something different for next year!

Regarding attendance, there are two things that I want to emphasize: Parents are excusing students either by email, phone, or the Google form, which is exactly what we want! What isn't so great is when they call back later that same day to wonder why the attendance hasn't been updated. Rachel, our amazing attendance secretary, receives dozens and dozens of requests to process...please be patient! Also, unless there is a late bus or some other massive calamity where I make an announcement excusing everyone, there are NO excused first hour tardies. I do understand traffic, trains, construction, and myriad other reasons why people may be late. We ask you to plan ahead and remember we give a lot of grace regarding tardies before there are any consequences.

You may recall that we have modified our attendance policy to separate it from academic performance. The academic consequence for missing school is loss of opportunity to learn. That being said, students may lose extra privileges if they have 15 or more absences (excused or unexcused) in a single class. This would include athletic events, dances, prom etc. Of course, if you have medical documentation, you always want us to have that on file when we complete attendance audits.

Finally please see page 4 for parent-teacher conference information.

As usual, it is really great to work with your kids, our amazing staff and teachers, and all of you! Please reach out if you need anything and have a great start to October!

Take care,

Dr. Kemsley

## COUNSELING INFORMATION

### College Night 2023

Lansing Community College is hosting a college fair with more than 50 representatives from Michigan colleges and universities on Thursday, October 19, 2023. More information and registration links are available at [www.lcc.edu/collegenight](http://www.lcc.edu/collegenight).

### Class of 2024

Please check your email from your counselor with the reminder to schedule your Senior Meeting. Appointments should be scheduled any time between now and the middle of October. [Check out this link for helpful information.](#)

### College Visits

U. S. Army: Tuesday, October 3 in front of the cafeteria during lunch

Princeton University: Wednesday, October 4 during B lunch in the counseling classroom

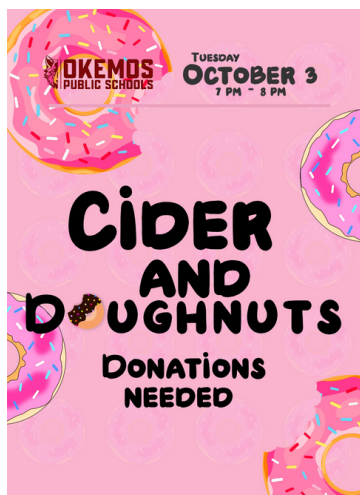
St. Mary's College: Friday, October 6 during B lunch in the counseling classroom

## PICTURE RETAKE INFORMATION:

LifeTouch will be coming back to take photos of students who did NOT get a photo taken/ID or want to order picture retakes. This is NOT for students to just get a new picture for IDs. These will take place on October 12th during your student's assigned lunch. Retakes will take place on the auditorium stage.

You can place a retake order on [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com) using the picture day ID: **EVTD3ZXVP**.

## DONATIONS NEEDED:



Students are looking for donations of cider and doughnuts for the Homecoming Bonfire on Tuesday, October 3rd. Donations can be dropped off in the OHS Main Office on October 3rd either before or after school, or before the bonfire at 6pm near the tennis courts behind the school. Thank you for your consideration!

## Fall Play Ticket Information

OHS THEATRE DEPARTMENT presents

# Clue

November 3, 4 @ 7:00 pm | November 5 @ 2:00 pm

The classic board game is brought to life in Clue, a hilarious farce-meets-murder mystery. The tale begins at a remote mansion, where six mysterious guests are invited to a dinner party thrown by an anonymous host, where murder and blackmail are on the menu. Given aliases – Colonel Mustard, Mrs. White, Mr. Green, Mrs. Peacock, Professor Plum, and Miss Scarlet – it is soon discovered that all of them have fallen victim to the same blackmailer, their very host of the evening. When their host turns up dead, they all become suspects. Led by Wadsworth, the butler, they must race to find the killer as the body count stacks up. CLUE is the comedy whodunit that will leave both movie cult fans and newcomers in stitches as they try to figure out...WHO did it, WHERE, and with WHAT! Purchase tickets at [okemostheatre.com](http://okemostheatre.com) or scan the QR code.



## SENIOR PICTURES:

Senior Pictures are due November 1st.

Mrs. Harrod sent an email regarding senior pictures to both parents/guardians and students that will describe exactly how to upload your senior picture. We are NOT collecting any senior pictures by email this year!

## ATHLETICS UPDATE:

Please purchase your tickets for home events in advance on [GoFan](http://GoFan).

For 35 years, the MHSAA and Farm Bureau Insurance have honored the best student-athletes in Michigan. Again this year they will award 32 students with \$2,000 scholarships based on achievement and leadership in athletics and activities, as well as responses to short-answer and essay questions. In many ways, this is the most prestigious honor the MHSAA awards annually. Please direct your senior athlete to [mhsaa.com/scholarship](http://mhsaa.com/scholarship) to start the application process.

# ALL THINGS HOMECOMING!



Wednesday September 27th:

Dance Guest forms must be picked up from the main office.

Guest must be current HS students!

\*Forms due on Tuesday, October 3rd!\*

Tuesday, October 3rd:

Bonfire @ OHS from 7-8pm

On practice football field - come to enjoy cider, donuts & the OHS band! Guest dance tickets must be purchased online by today! Guest forms must be turned in to the office by today!

Friday, October 6th:

Homecoming Parade

Parade starts @5:30 starting @ 2/42 church and ending at the OHS Stadium. \*If you wish to walk with your class, come to 2/42 church @4:30 & bring candy to pass out!\*

Saturday, October 7th:

Homecoming Dance

The dance takes place at the high school in the cafeteria. Students should be picked-up and dropped off in the student parking lot entrance. Dance starts @8pm (ends @ 11pm) - tickets are also sold at the door for \$10 (cash only) for OHS students only (no guests can pay at the door).

All students must present school ID to enter the dance. ALL STUDENTS MUST ENTER THE DANCE BY 9PM. ALL GUEST MUST BE A CURRENT HS STUDENT!

\*\*Please make sure you are ON TIME picking up your student at or before 11:00pm. There is no supervision after that point.

Spirit Days:

Monday, Oct. 2 - Disney Day

Tuesday, Oct. 3 - Decades Day

Wednesday, Oct. 4 - Wolfpack Wednesday

Thursday, Oct. 5 - Beach Day

Friday, Oct. 6 - Class T-Shirt Day! \*Class T-shirts will be sold ONLINE ONLY for \$15\*

\*If you need financial assistance for any of these events, please have your child contact their counselor at least 24 hours in advance.\*

# GO WOLVES!

## PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place on October 17 (4-7pm), October 19 (12-3pm), and October 25 (4-7pm). The sign-up will be available at noon on Monday, October 2nd at <https://www.myconferencetime.com/okemoshs>. The conference sign-up will close the day of conferences and conferences will be held through Zoom.

A few general reminders:

- Per our school policy involving virtual meetings, please have your camera on at all times so staff are aware of who they are speaking with during the conference. Videoing/recording the conference or taking pictures of the screen are prohibited.
- Staff will use the "waiting room" during Zoom sessions. Please be sure the name you register with for the conference matches the name you use for the Zoom call, so staff will know to let you into the conference.

## FROM DR. LARA SLEE, DIRECTOR OF DEI

### National Hispanic Heritage Month

National Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated from September 15 to October 15. The terms "Hispanic" and "Latino" have different meanings. "Hispanic" refers to someone who comes from or is a descendant of a Spanish-speaking country. "Latina" or "Latino" (or the gender-neutral, "Latinx") refers to someone who comes from Latin America or is a descendant from any Latin American country. Latin America consists of the entire continent of South America in addition to Mexico, Central America, and the islands of the Caribbean.

### E3 Grant Information

Okemos Public Schools has partnered with Child and Family Charities to provide a mental health clinic within Okemos High School. This opportunity is made possible because of the Expanding, Enhancing Emotional Health (E3) grant through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Adolescent Health Center Division. The clinic will provide on-site comprehensive mental health services from mild to moderate severity of need. There will be a full-time therapist at the OHS clinic five days a week and will be able to serve all OPS youth ages 5 to 21 years.

This is not a free service. Many insurance plans are accepted by Child and Family Charities, and there is a sliding fee scale for those without insurance. If the insurance co-pay or fee is a hardship, Child and Family Charities will work with you to find a solution.

If you're interested in services for your student, please complete [this referral form](#). If you have additional questions, please contact Sana Sumbal, LLMSW, Emotional Health Therapist ([sana@childandfamily.org](mailto:sana@childandfamily.org), 269-261-0099), or Dr. Lara Slee, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion ([lara.slee@okemosk12.net](mailto:lara.slee@okemosk12.net), 517-706-5011). You can also find more information about E3 services on the [OPS web site](#).

# COMMUNITY EVENTS/INFO

## TRUNK OR TREAT 2023

👤 OKEMOS PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPERATION DEPARTMENT 🧟

### WHEN

Sunday, Oct. 29th, 4-7pm

### WHERE

Okemos High School Stadium Parking lot

More Info Here:

<https://www.smores.com/tyw0g>

Sign Up Here:

<https://okemosk12.revtrak.net/special-events/>

### What is Trunk or Treat??????

Participants decorate their vehicle trunk (or tented space if you prefer) to a theme. Participants dress up in costumes to match. You can hand out tricks or treats to students as they come by. Students dress up in their favorite costume or fall clothing and trick or treat from vehicle to vehicle in a safe place, seeing all of their friends. Students, clubs, staff, sports groups, etc are encouraged to work together, creating exciting trunks! Come hungry and enjoy your favorite Food Truck for dinner!



**TCBA YOUTH CYCLING CLUB**

**FALL FUN RIDE**

**OCTOBER 7TH, 2023  
9AM TO 12PM**

**MICHIGAN STATE CAPITOL**

**FREE EXCITING LEARN**

**ADULTS WELCOME**

**REGISTER HERE:** 

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/5CVYTF5C](https://tinyurl.com/5CVYTF5C)

[biketcba.org](http://biketcba.org)

The poster features a stylized blue cyclist icon, two orange leaves, and two photos: one of people riding on a path and another of a person on a bridge over a river.

## AYLUS

The Greater Lansing Branch of AYLUS (Alliance of Youth Leaders in the US) has just opened up and we are looking for people qualified to be a part of our branch. AYLUS is a student-run nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of our communities, which range from our houses to all across the United States! We promote the development of our members' leadership, integrity, and innovation, through the planning and execution of volunteer projects that aim to benefit our communities.

Here is a brief description of our branch and what we do:

The Greater Lansing Branch of AYLUS strives to better improve the Greater Lansing, MI community through student-led volunteer work. We encourage our members to develop their leadership skills, build character, and promote community service. Our goal is to recruit more members who are passionate about volunteer work and making a positive impact in our community. Our members lead and start all events, big and small, and are required to participate in at least 3 events and create/lead at least 1 event per year. Through active volunteerism, our branch hopes to bring more student involvement in activities that better our community. Local trash clean-ups, senior center care packages, and various types of drives (food, clothing, books, etc.) are some examples of the work we do. We welcome all students in the area who are interested in joining!

For more information about our branch, branch history, and member requirements, visit our [Branch Website](#).

If you are interested in joining, please fill out our [New Member Form](#). Please don't hesitate to reach out to us at [aylusgreaterlansingmi@gmail.com](mailto:aylusgreaterlansingmi@gmail.com) or talk to one of our branch leaders if you have any questions. Thank you! AYLUS Greater Lansing Team [aylusgreaterlansingmi@gmail.com](mailto:aylusgreaterlansingmi@gmail.com)