

# Oak Views

## Benchmarks and Beaches

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The staff worked together to facilitate a “sea” change at Oak View. For many years, we have collected material for each student in a portfolio: journals, special projects, etc. Last year, Ms. Allen and Ms. Spitzer hatched a plan to create true portfolios of student work and spend a year discussing and refining their plan. With the addition of Ms. Robinson in the fall, they were able to fully realize the project and the three teachers collaborated to agree on benchmark standards they could uniformly focus on in each of their academic classes. Then, they created benchmark tests of reading and writing that were administered the first week of school.

With a large stack of papers to evaluate and plenty to do teaching classes, grading paper, and planning during their usual working hours, how could they get all of these tests evaluated?

The office staff of Mr.

Cromwell, Mr. Rogers, and Ms. Ellie responded to their plea to take the students on a field trip while teachers evaluated the benchmarks.

Student portfolios will contain the benchmark tests initially. Then, as they complete classroom assignments that show their progress toward the standards, those assignments will also be included in the portfolios. Students will participate in at least one review-of-progress activities where they will seek and evaluate their growth. Benchmark testing will also take place at the end of the year to provide a teacher evaluation of progress as well.

Mr. Cromwell writes the following about the field trip:

Oak View students had a blast on the first field



trip of the year. This trip was designed to show the students the pathway that our local Medea Creek follows on its' journey to the Pacific Ocean. We began our trip at Oak View where we observed Medea Creek as it passed by our school. Our first stop was Malibou Lake (yes that is spelled correctly) where Medea Creek is one of the two tributaries that combine there. We observed where Medea Creek (cont. page 2)

**FAFSA  
Workshop  
September  
13  
9-11 AM**

**Parents  
Welcome!!**

**Call Mr. Rog-  
ers for  
further  
information**



## Principal's Corner

The first quarter is about to end already - can you believe it?! It is finally beginning to feel a bit like fall! This year is already off and running and I am seeing a lot of great things around campus. You have all been working very hard and it is great to see all of the excitement in the classrooms. It is clear to me that you are all putting a lot of energy into being successful this year. Keep up those positive attitudes and work habits, they will definitely pay off for you. I am excited about all of the activities that we already have planned. ASB has



been busy working on making sure that there are a lot of cool things for us to do this year. We have already taken a few field trips and are planning more to come. Overall, this year is go-

ing to be a great one. Stay strong and keep up that positive spirit Oak View! You are all awesome and it is great to see so much success!

Mr. Cromwell

entered the lake and viewed the Malibou Lake dam. Our next stop was Malibu Creek State Park. This is where the water from Malibou Lake runs to - as Malibu Creek. This is also where Malibu Creek merges with Las Virgenes Creek. After that stop we meandered down Las Virgenes Canyon and ended up at Malibu beach estuary. We stopped at the estuary and observed the end point of the water's journey to the Pacific Ocean. We left Malibu and headed north to have lunch at Leo Carillo State Beach. After a fun picnic, we headed North on PCH and headed inland for a brief tour of the UC Channel Islands campus. At this point, we were all exhausted so we headed home. The day was a blast and many memories were created. We look forward to many more fun trips as the year goes on.



# NOTES FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

September 13, 2022

The OPUSD Board of Education held the September 13th regular meeting at Oak Park High School, Presentation Room G9. One staff member made a public comment on a non-agenda item regarding the public health order requiring weekly testing of unvaccinated staff. Superintendent Dr. Jeff Davis shared that the Public health order in effect since August 2021 was lifted by the state today and would be effective after September 17th. The Board adopted the agenda and pulled items B.3.d., B.3.e. (related to Blue Point Alert Systems) from the Agenda. The Board also pulled Item B.1.c. Purchase Order Report out of Consent and moved it as the first action item after Consent. The Board adopted the rest of the Agenda as presented. Monthly reports were also given by School Board Members, Student Board member Tess Leong, the Superintendent, and Scott Star from the Oak Park Education Foundation.

## CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved routine items such as minutes of previous meetings, public employee changes, and purchase orders, among others, in the Consent Agenda:

Approved Resolution #2022-13, Establishing the GANN Appropriation Limit for Fiscal Years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 - The Gann Initiative (Proposition 4, 1979) created a constitutional requirement for school districts to annually adopt a resolution identifying its estimated appropriations limit for the current year and its actual appropriations limit for the preceding year. This resolution establishes the District's revised actual Gann Limit for the 2021-22 fiscal year and its projected Gann Limit for the 2022-23 fiscal year. The completed appropriation limit forms are included in the District's Unaudited Actuals and will be submitted to the State Department of Education and approved by the State Board of Education.

## EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Held a Public Hearing and Approval of Resolution #2022-14, Regarding Sufficiency of Textbooks and Instructional Materials for 2022-2023 - Education Code 60119 requires that districts hold a public hearing regarding the sufficiency of core textbooks and instructional materials in the district to receive the textbook and instructional materials funding from the state. For the 2022-2023 school year, OPUSD has followed the state curriculum framework guidelines and complied with all associated recommendations.

Received a Quarterly Report on the Number of Students Earning a D or F Grade at Secondary Schools - The Board [received this report](#) from Assistant Superintendent Tammy Herzog on strategies implemented to support

students who have earned D/F grades or may be at risk of earning D/F grades.

Accepted California School Dashboard Local Indicator Report - Staff presented [this update on the Local Indicators](#) - The School Dashboard includes easy-to-use reports, which show local educational agencies (LEAs), schools, and student groups on a set of state and local indicators to assist in identifying strengths, weaknesses, and areas in need of improvement. Local Indicators are based on information that local educational agencies collect locally. They are:

- Basic Conditions at School
- Implementation of State Academic Standards
- Parent and Family Engagement
- School Climate
- Access to a Broad Course of Study

Ratified Career Education Center MOU with Ventura County Office of Education for 2022-2023 School Year - OPUSD and VCOE will work together to provide CTE courses at VCOE's Career Education Center (CEC). The CEC operates as a California Regional Occupation Center/Program and is WASC accredited as a postsecondary school. The programs offered at the CEC are intended to prepare grade 11 and 12 students for the workforce and/or to continue their education.

## BUSINESS SERVICES

Approved Unaudited Actual Revenues and Expenditures Report for Fiscal Year 2021-22 - The District's 2021-22 books were officially closed, and the fiscal year's revenues and expenditures year-end balances were finalized. Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Adam Rauch, presented the [2021-2022 Unaudited Actuals](#) to the Board. The District has ended the 2021-22 fiscal year with an unrestricted General Fund ending balance sufficient to meet the Designated Amount for Economic Uncertainties required by Education Code.

Approved Spending Plan for 2022-23 Education Protection Account Funds - California voters approved Proposition 30, which established the Education Protection Account (EPA). The Board must approve the use of the EPA funds in an open session of a public meeting. The district's spending plan allocates 100% of the revenue to teachers' salaries.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

Heal a Public Hearing and Approval of the District's Initial Proposal for Collective Bar-

gaining Negotiations with Oak Park Classified Association - The current Contract of Agreement between the OPUSD and the OPCA expires on June 30, 2024. Each side must sunshine the articles it proposes to open for discussion in the 2022-2023 school year.

These are the articles that were sunshined:

- Article 11, Salaries, Pay, Allowance
- Article 12, Health and Welfare Benefits
- Article 17, Discipline
- Article 19, Performance Evaluation

## BOARD POLICIES

Approved Amendment to Board Bylaw [9270 Exhibit – Conflict of Interest](#) and [Conflict of Interest Code](#) - According to Government Code § 87306.5, every local government agency must review its conflict of interest code biennially and submit the Local Agency Biennial Notice to its code reviewing body. Accurate disclosure is essential to monitor whether officials have conflicts of interest and to help ensure public trust in government. The biennial review examines current programs to ensure that the agency's code includes disclosure by those agency officials who make or participate in making governmental decisions. Based on staff recommendation, the Board revised the Conflict of Interest Code and Exhibit due to the following:

There has been a substantial change to the agency's organizational structure since the last code was approved. A position has been eliminated since the last code was approved. A new position has been added since the last code was approved. Revision of disclosure categories since the last code was approved.

## OPEN DISCUSSION/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Update on Exhibits for Board Policy Placement in Mathematics Courses 6152.1 The subcommittee of the Board, comprising of Board Members Denise Helfstein and Soyon Hardy, provided an update on the work done with the staff on creating the Exhibits for the BP/AR 6152.1. Exhibit 1 is a letter informing families of the math pathways, scope, and sequence of math courses at Medea and OPHS. Exhibit 2 is a waiver for parents/guardians to sign if they request a placement in a math course in grades 7, 8, and/or 9 that the school does not recommend and for which the student does not meet the placement criteria. These exhibits will be brought to the Board for approval at the October meeting. In the meantime, the sub-committee would provide guidance so that staff could send the communication to families and hold the math information night, which is scheduled

# Getting Real Information About A Very Real Danger

Ms. Spitzer asked students in her Government class what were major issues facing our country today and was surprised to find students did not know about the current fentanyl crisis. After an OVHS staff discussion on the importance of our students being properly informed of the youth drug trends and concerns Mr. Rogers took up the challenge. He coordinated with Mr. Al Ludington (head of Ludington Institute in Westlake) for an assembly presentation. On Thursday, September 29th Jimi Magner and Trevor Ludington presented OVHS students and staff with the most up to date drug trends and information. They spoke frankly to students and provided both facts and advice, also answering important follow up corrections. A true team effort!



## Field Trips

On September 11 OVHS split into 3 groups based on our 4/5 classes. Each group went to a different place and had experiences that related to their core subject. It was great to have an all-school yet individualized field trip experience.

Ms. Allen's English class walked in the world of Greek myth at the Getty Villa. They went on a self-guided tour of important Greek art and artifacts, then wandered the grounds and museums as they liked. It was a beautiful day by the beach with lots of art and



Ms. Spitzer's US History class had a great time at the Reagan Library. There are many interactive historical installations to enjoy.



English students are in the midst of writing their own Hero's Journey short stories and received much inspiration at the Villa. We especially enjoyed the water features such as the fountains and the reflecting pool.



## Honoring Luc Bodden

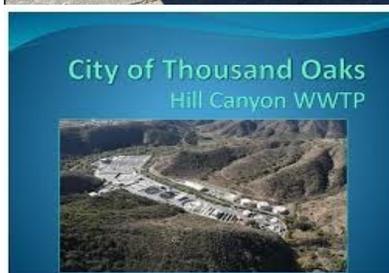
JD Slajchert visited us to give his annual talk in commemoration of Luc Bodden Day. He and Luc had a life-changing relationship prior to Luc's untimely death of Sickle Cell disease. JD represents the LucStrong Foundation. *From their website:* "The LucStrong Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit providing grants to families with children (between the ages of 1 and 18) who are diagnosed with Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) and are going through the Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) process. The goal of the LucStrong Foundation is to help alleviate some of the financial burdens of families who have a child in the transplant process."

This year's theme is "caring." If ever a person, if ever family embodied this virtue, it is Luc and his family.



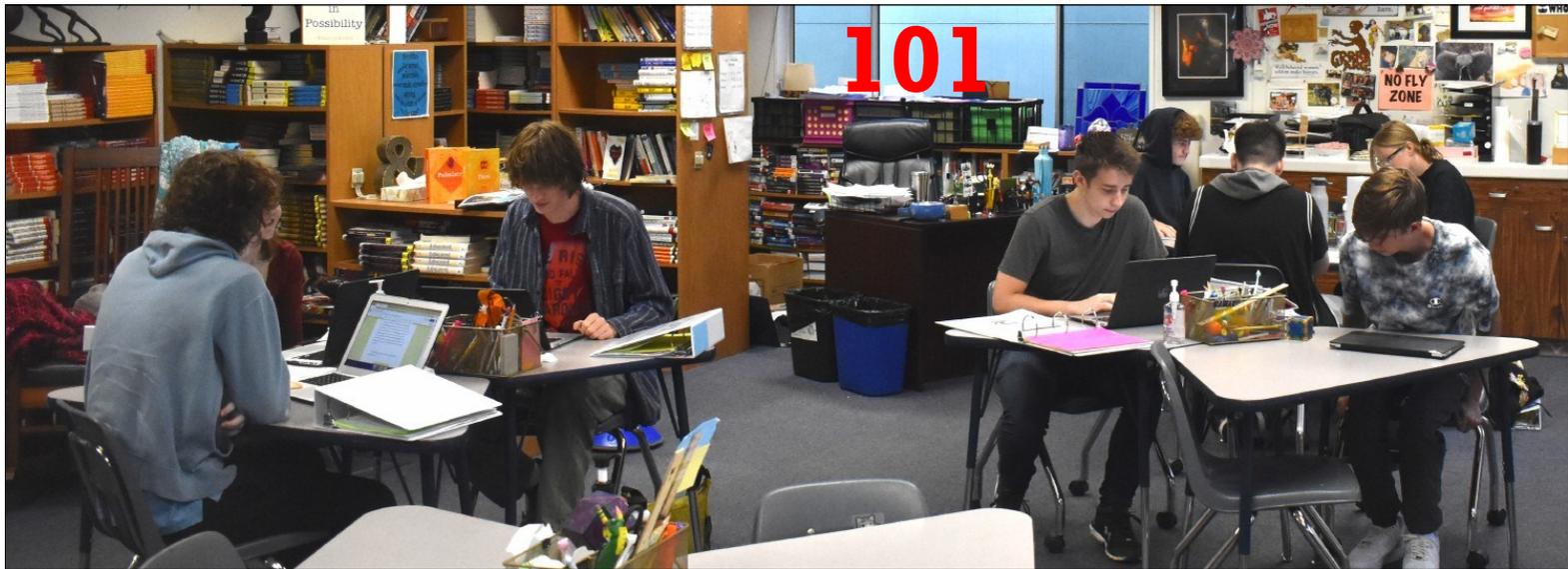
One of the main draws for the US History class was the special exhibit The Secrets of WWII. It took students "From the battles along our California coast to the battlefields of Japan, Germany, London and more" according to the website. Of course, the many photo ops on offer were enjoyable, too!

Environmental Science students went with Ms. Robinson to the Hill Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant in Camarillo. This plant treats 8 million gallons of wastewater a day using biogas and solar arrays to fuel most of the plant's energy needs. Chemists, control technologists, and engineers run the plant to release water purified to advanced tertiary level, suitable for any use. Domestic houses, commercial businesses, and industrial plants from several local cities send their water to be treated in this plant.



# In Our Classes

Students in English are writing their Hero's Journeys with the support of their peer writing groups. Students learn a process of evaluation and constructive feedback that is outlined in Peter Elbow's book *Writing Without Teachers* and that has been used by Ms. Allen for years. These collaborative groups support our reading with enhanced speaking and listening skills, thus covering 3 of the 4 areas of ELA standards in one go! Below, Careers students work solo on their autobiographical essays as their last task to round out quarter one. These multi-page essays can be used to provide material for the essays many scholarships require. Students will have to apply for at least 2 scholarships as well, so it does come in handy!



## In Our Classes



Ms. Robinson has many hands-on activities for science that engage students. Here, chemistry students build atomic models, then bond them correctly to make accurate molecular formulae. These were hung up in the classroom as lasting reminders of the learning.

Environmental science students have planted milkweed seedlings in the planters around the quad. These will eventually be located on the hill near campus to continue our Save the Monarch campaign begun last year. Below, Ms. Robinson demonstrates a working aquifer (with aquitard).



Ms. Spitzer's Senior Government class shares their Political Party Children's Books while enjoying the great outdoors. Students make great use of our quad area for quiet work time, group work, and presentations.



## Sock Monkey Tea Party — Pinkies Raised



The annual Sock Monkey Tea Party was a group effort this year! To celebrate the completion of our sock monkey creations, we always have a tea. While Ms. Allen supplied the china and some treats, students provided homemade cinnamon rolls & muffins, lemon bars, and finger sandwiches along with delicious mini-bear claws. We welcomed Ms. Ellie as part of our group as well, and as you can see the sock monkeys had a great time as well!

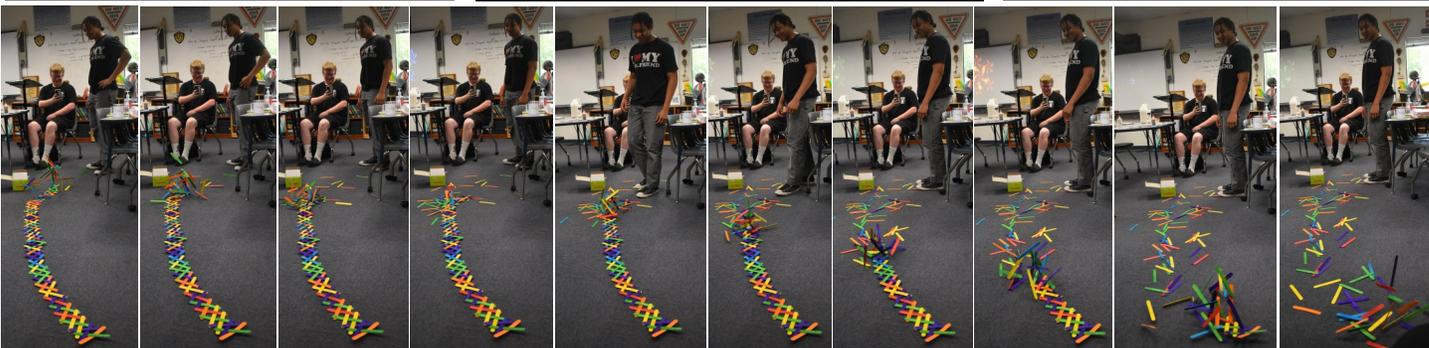


## Lunch Time





Our ASB is off to a great start. While students are planning parties, making posters, and coming up with all sorts of creative ideas, they got the party started with our very first Spirit Day — Everything But A... Some students brought replacements for water bottles while others brought items to use instead of a backpack. It was definitely a day with some very interesting items on campus.



**Thursday we take time to experiment and create art!**



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**Respect,  
Resilience,  
Responsibility**



# October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat				
						1				
2	3	4	5	Student conference at VCOE	6	ALL HERE Periods 1 & 2/3	7	8		
9	10	Happy birthday, Jacob!	11	Happy birthday, Sophia!	12	FAFSA work- shop 9—11	13	End of quarter 1 Study Hall	14	15
16	Canned food Drive Begins	17	18	19	20	Study Hall	21	22		
23	24	25	26	Clean Teen Bowling Trip	27	Study Hall	28	29		
30	Halloween Party!	31								