

# Oak Views

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## Needed!

**\*iPod Shuffles**  
**\*Computer Mice**  
**For Classroom Use**

## Bell Schedule

### Monday through Wednesday

Period 1	8:35—9:20
Period 2/3	9:25—10:55
Break	10:55—11:20
Period 4/5	11:20—12:50
Period 6	12:55—1:40

### Thursday

Period 1	8:35—9:05
Period 2/3	9:10—10:25
Break	10:25—10:45
Period 4/5	10:50—12:05
Period 6	12:10—12:40

### Friday

Period 1	8:35—10:05
Period 2	10:10—11:40

## Off to Another Great Start!

Welcome to a new school year! Oak View continues to evolve to best meet the needs of students. Students will benefit from new course offerings, improved instructional practices, an expanded vocational program, and choice in building a course of study that best meets individual interests. Classroom furniture, curriculum, books, and instructional equipment were purchased and delivered over the summer and our classroom technology was upgraded as well. **We consider ourselves fortunate to receive the level of support we do from the district and community. Thank you!**

### PROGRAM EVOLUTION

Ventura County Office of Education (VCOE) sponsors many vocational offerings, and OVHS is right at the front of the line to obtain these opportunities for our students. The program is called Ventura County Innovates (VCI). Beginning August 19, students are taking classes in sound engineering and digital imaging from instructors in the industry. See



Hallie Baenafe, Amanda Rosen, Matt Friedman

next month's newsletter for profiles of the instructors and pictures of the students at work. ers have been extensively trained in project-based instruction, and all staff will continue to develop course work that fosters critical thinking skills and provides for more choice and challenge in daily course work. Ms. Allen will be a trainer for the district in these techniques as part of a cohort of teachers who will replace the outside vendor providing previous professional development. She has also been trained as a peer coach and will serve as such as part of this program.

### NEW COURSE OFFERINGS

In quarter 2, Mrs. Kelem will offer emergency medical response training and Ms. Allen will teach a class in child development. The curriculum, supplies, and teacher training are all provided through VCI. The classes will be offered during the school day during period 4/5.

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### INSTRUCTIONAL CHANGE

This is actually more of a further evolution. All three of our teach-



Kiana Gand, Damon Quintard, Michael Fuller

## Help Save District of Choice!

### See Superintendent's message, page 3!

#### Speaker of the Assembly Anthony Rendon

Email: [assemblymember.rendon@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:assemblymember.rendon@assembly.ca.gov)

Telephone Capitol Office: (916) 319-2063

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#### Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez

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#### Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin

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## Principal's Corner

Welcome back Oak View students and families. I hope you all have enjoyed

a relaxing and meaningful summer vacation. We are looking forward to a strong year here at Oak View. We have not started the school year as large as we are for over 7 years. We will start the year with roughly 45 students. Going into my fourth year as principal, I feel that I have made connections with all of you, and I know that our staff feels the same way. Below I have included some exciting information about changes, upcoming events and why our school is becoming so popular. Here's to a great year!

### INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Due to strong success in its opening year, we are continuing with the incentive program at OVHS. Students who have earned perfect attendance, have behaved well at school, and have completed all of their work for the week, are offered the option of spending Friday pursuing their own interests. While opportunities for earning additional credits are offered through VCI classes on Fridays, students can opt to use this time for gaining outlying credits, community service, a job, or a hobby. We feel students are developing the valuable life-skills of time management, organization, and communication.

### BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT

Back to School Night will be held on August 25th at OVHS. You and your student will be able to visit each

classroom, hearing about what the teachers expect from the students. You will also be provided a course overview. This will be the perfect opportunity to ask the teachers questions. We will also be reviewing our internship program and incentive program on this evening from 6:00 to 7:30.

### FACILITIES

Over the summer, we have received new desks, a bench garden at OPIS (honoring our beloved teacher from OPIS, who was also very close with the OVHS staff), and a new conference room, which will be used for counseling groups, study skills and general meetings.

### VENTURA COUNTY INNOVATES

We will be offering three new Ventura County Innovates (VCI) courses.

We are excited to introduce George Gabriel (Ventura County District provides teacher). George will be teaching our new Sound Engineering class on Fridays. George is a talented composer, producer, and music director who shares our passion of providing engaging opportunities for students into potential career pathways. We are also offering Child Development (Susan Allen). Our final new

class will be Health Science Emergency Response (EMR), (KC Kelem). This is a great way for our students to get a practical skill for their graduation requirements. We have had very few options in the past.

### WASC YEAR

The staff, students and parents all worked extremely hard on our Western Association for Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation visit. OVHS received the highest possible review of a six-year clear accreditation from WASC. Big thanks to all who participated in making this a success!!

### NEW TEACHER

I would like to welcome Scott Deck, our new teacher who will be overseeing our Study Skills class and helping assistant teachers in and out of the classroom. Scott is also working at Oak Park High School and is very familiar with our students. He has worked at OPHS for more than five years and is known for having a great rapport with his students. He loves spending time with his kids and coaching them in baseball and soccer. We are extremely lucky to have him!!!

Thank you,  
Stew McGugan



Principal McGugan leads our first checkout of the year.



## Alumni Roundup

We love hearing how graduates are doing! This summer, Ms. Allen attended the premiere of Kevin Ferman's ('12) second skateboarding film at Skatelab in Simi Valley.



Doron Arad ('13) and Kelly DiFonzo ('13) stopped by to report on their college plans. After getting certification and working as a machinist, Doron is back in school, switching his major from engineering to business. Kelly is heading to Moorpark to begin her quest to become a registered nurse.



Pat Keane ('13) will finish up his BA at Full Sail University in Florida this coming year. He has already signed a recording contract and is working as a performer and a sound engineer. He plans to start touring after graduation, though a career in movie sound is also a possibility.

Jordan Corbett ('16) stopped by to cash in his scholarship. He has registered for classes that will lead him to a degree in game design and an eventual career in the world of video games.



Jordan with Laura Williams, Amanda Rosen, and Hallie Bue-nafe.

Recent graduates ('16) Ethan OConnor and McCartney Tabor are going places! For Ethan, it is mostly school, work, and the gym, while McCartney is headed to Africa as a volunteer with Cross Cultural Solutions. While Ethan is knocking out his requirements at Moorpark, McCartney will be in Tanzania, Morocco, and Ghana working with children, young adults, and women as she finds adventure across the globe.



## We Need Help to Keep District of Choice!

Dear Parents and Staff,

The District of Choice (DOC) law is set to expire in June of 2017 and a new bill, SB 1432 was proposed this spring to extend the program well into the future. It passed the State Senate 38-1 and then seemed like it was in trouble when it was sent to the State Assembly Education Committee. OPUSD engaged the services of a lobbyist, along with other school districts who have significant numbers of DOC families and I personally went to Sacramento in June to meet with members of the Committee to explain the importance of the DOC legislation to not only Oak Park, but to public education in California. The bill is currently being held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee's Suspense File, where it will die unless Legislative Leadership understands how vital the District of Choice program is.

This is all happening very quickly. The DOC program is responsible for more than \$18 million in annual funding to the Oak Park USD. If the DOC program ceases to exist, there will be a highly negative impact on ALL of our students, our employees, and community. Additionally, it is not clear what the legal status of the students would be who are attending our schools as part of the DOC program.

It is important that every parent, staff member, and even students, take time **today** and contact three members of the Assembly about the matter. Note that our Assemblymember, Jacqui Irwin is supportive of SB 1432. Simply ask for her help in doing whatever she can to get the bill in front of the Committee.

Dr. Tony Knight

## We Bring Back A Winning Line-Up! — Teaching Staff

### Ms. Allen



Ms. Allen is glad to be back at work after a busy summer. She enjoyed 4 short weeks in Italy, then spent the rest of the summer gardening, reading, daydreaming, and visiting with family.

In her fifteenth year at Oak View, Ms. Allen teaches all English classes as well as Consumer Math, Careers, Design Crafts, Foods, Yearbook, and Stained Glass. This year she will add Child Development through Ventura County Innovates, a class that is a requirement for anyone going into education.

Ms. Allen worked as a waitress for seven years to put herself through school at The Evergreen State College where she earned her BA in English and history and her teaching credential. She taught in Washington and at Paramount USD in California before taking some time to raise her girls -- Rosie 26 and Sarah 21. She is currently earning a Master's degree at California State University at Northridge.

**"Every year here is exciting. The best people -- staff, students, and parents -- come through Oak View. Everyone leaves an impression. What will yours be?"**

### Mrs. Liepmann



Randi Liepman has been at Oak View since 1982! Working here was her first full-time teaching job, and she loved it so much she has never left. She is definitely a people person, having always worked at jobs that required excellent people skills.

She teaches all the social sciences here as well as Algebra, Psychology, Parenting, Film, and Current Events. She loves "working with a great group of people! Getting to know the students and becoming like a family." She also loves the beautiful setting where our school is located.

Ms. Liepman is married with two children. She grew up in Arizona, but attended college at the University of Redlands for her B.A., and UCI, for her teaching credentials.

Her son Chris graduated from his master's program in London and moved to New York and her daughter graduated from UCSB.

**"I am excited to get to know the new students and see the new seniors graduate! I'm looking forward to being with my wonderful co-workers. I missed them over the summer."**

### Mrs. Kelem



After a hectic start to her summer attending her son's university and her daughter's high school graduations, Mrs. Kelem took some time to travel. With her husband of over 30 years and two of her children she ventured off on an exciting trip to Thailand. Now back, she is ready to start her third year here at OVHS.

Mrs. Kelem has taught science for the last 9 years, including all levels of science from middle school 6th-8th to high school biology, geo-science, marine science and anatomy. She worked for CVUSD for 5 years and Oxnard school district before joining Oak Park.

Mrs. Kelem grew up abroad living in multiple countries before landing in California in 1985 where she met her husband. She has lived in Newbury Park for the last 25 years, raising her 4 children aged 30-12.

Prior to becoming a teacher, Mrs. Kelem worked in the Biotech industry for over 15 years as a Validation Engineer. Due to her love of both children and science she decided to make a career change into teaching and has loved it ever since.

**"I'm very excited to start my new classes, meet our new students, and catch up with our students from last year. It's going to be so wonderful seeing this year's graduating class, as many of the students I have had the pleasure of teaching since I started here!!"**



## We Bring Back A Winning Line-Up! — Office Staff

### Ms. Roberts



Ms. Roberts is a SoCal native. She graduated from UCSB and has worked in banking and the restaurant business before coming to Oak View. Ms. Roberts lives in Agoura with her husband and dog. Her youngest son is attending SDSU. The Roberts have four other adult children living in the Southern California area, along with 8 grandchildren! She began working for OPUSD in 1997 as a

**I always hope each year will be the best! I'm looking forward to a great year.**

guest teacher coordinator and the office manager for summer school. She came to OVHS in 2002, so this will be her 15th graduation!

### Mr. McGugan



Mr. McGugan was born and raised in the Conejo Valley. He grew up in Newbury Park, and attended public schools in his community. Stewart has always loved athletics. He played baseball and football in high school and is a true fan of all sports. He was in the US Navy for four years, onboard the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz. Throughout his time in the military, Stew traveled all over the world and experienced many different people and events that taught him lifelong lessons. They helped him to realize how lucky he is to live in Agoura Hills, and it is for this reason he resides here with his wife and three daughters who all attend OPUSD schools.

Professionally, he has worked as a counselor at Calabasas High School. When he came to Oak Park High School, he was hired as the transition counselor, where he worked very closely with MCMS to ease and facilitate the transition of 8<sup>th</sup> graders into the high school system. The next year he was promoted to the Assistant Principal position at Oak Park high school. For his five years as Assistant Principal, he oversaw athletics, facilities, ASB, curriculum, counseling, SPED, attendance and discipline. He is a member of the district leadership team and he works closely with the union negotiations teams (classified and certificated) in the district. This is his 4th year at Oak View high school.

In his personal life, he loves playing with his kids and spends as much time as possible helping coach them in soccer and softball. In his free time, Stew also likes to exercise and surf. He also loves beating up on Mr. Rogers football/kickball teams on Thursdays.

### Mr. Rogers



Mr. Rogers is working at two schools all within his regular workweek. He is working at OVHS and OPIS. Each school is different in its own way but all are fun to work at. He previously worked at Royal High and has had a total of thirteen years in working in K-12 education. He has held the jobs of substitute teacher, PE teacher, and counselor (K-5, Middle, and High School).

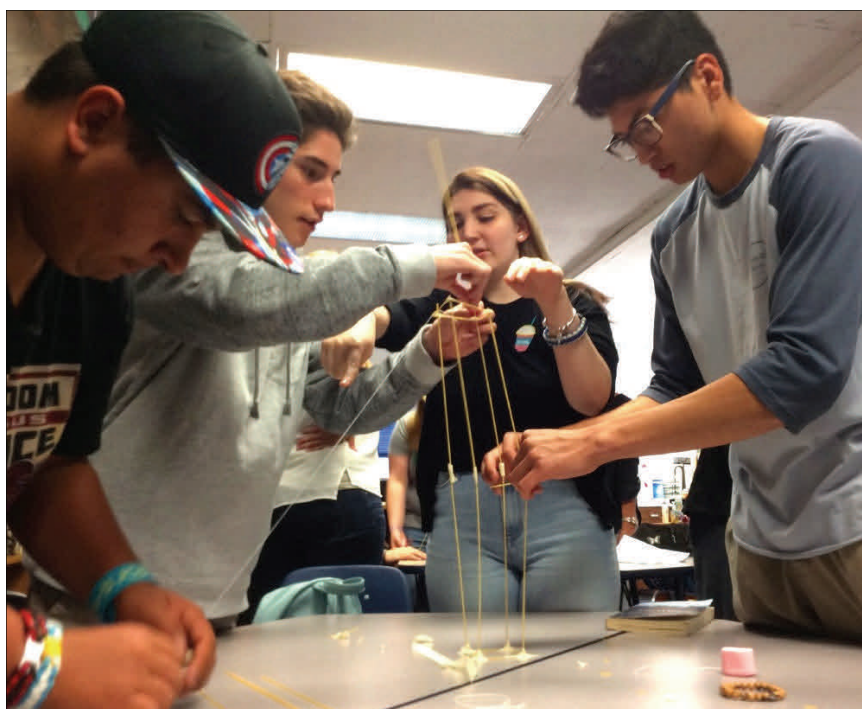
Having grown up in Camarillo and attending college at Ventura and UCSB he is familiar with the local schools and communities. He graduated from UCSB with a degree in Sociology and a minor in sports management. He went on to get his Masters degree in Educational counseling. "I love working in education", "I tell people my job doesn't feel like a real job because I get to work at a school and talk to students every day."

He currently lives in Camarillo and enjoys being with his family, good food, watching Notre Dame football, and going to the beach whenever possible. Something you don't know about Mr. Rogers is he ran with the bulls (made sure not to get hit) in Pamplona Spain in 2006.

His favorite aspect of being at OVHS is working with the students and being part of the Oak View family. His goal is to help all students reach their academic, social, and career goals.

## First Day Team Building

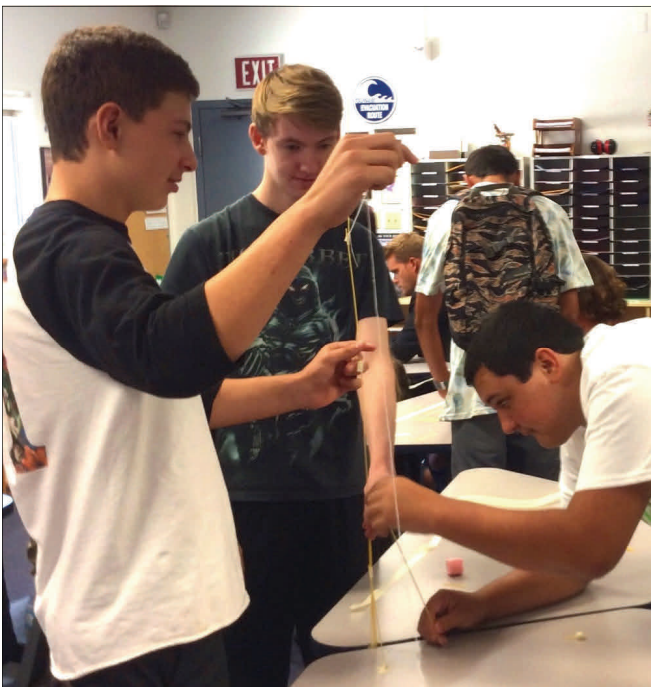
One of our primary goals is to foster group work skills in our students. Our project-based curriculum supports the growth of the ability to communicate, group-think, and work competently and cohesively with others. At right, Thomas Cobain, Connor Gentry, Yasamin Efektari, and Matt Friedman work together to create an innovative design incorporating spaghetti noodles, tape, string, and a marshmallow. Teams of 4 had to work together creative and collaboratively to create their structure in just 18 minutes. All but 3 of the 10 teams succeeded in crafting a free-standing structure. Below left, Parisa Tarani, Hallie Buenafe, Cody Marshak, and Kat Conley experiment with different options.



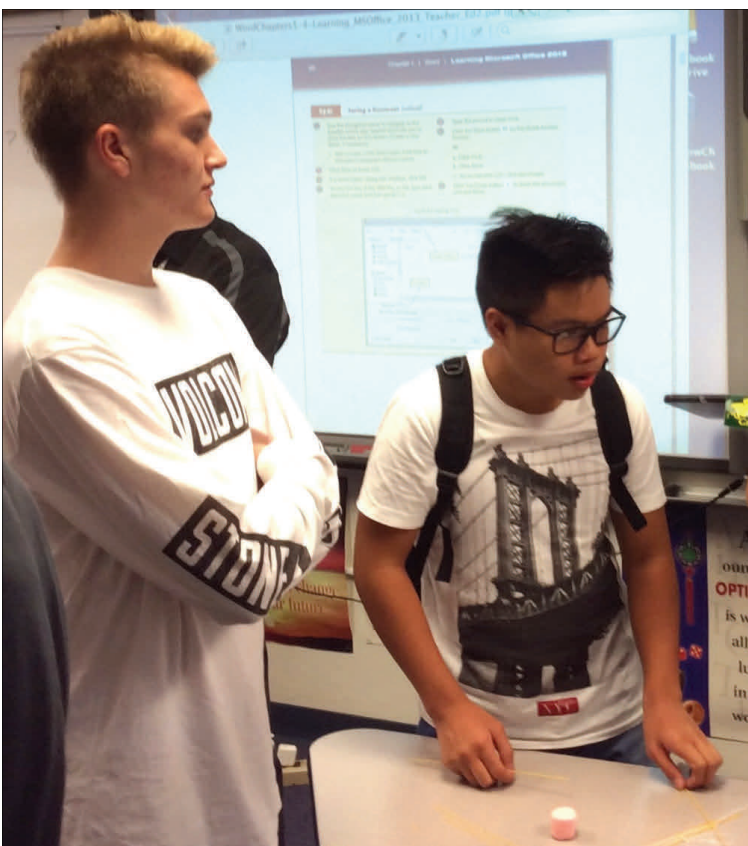
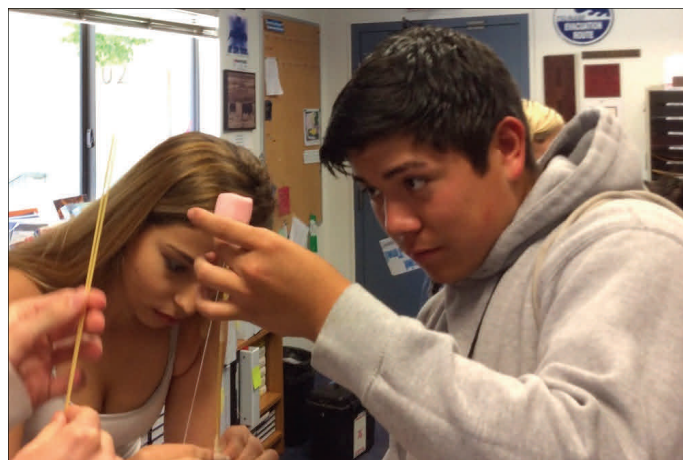
At left, Michael Cohen and Emily Barber get advice from our geometry teachers, Mrs. Kelem. They made the second highest tower of all. Above right a team of seniors — Jordan Eminente, Matthew Hoffman, Amanda Rosen, and Robert Romero — collaborate on their structure. Our senior class numbers 19, and is setting a good tone for the school year. Several, like Amanda and Hallie (above left) have been at OVHS since sophomore year. Jordan and Matthew joined us during their junior years, and Robert is a recent arrival. They teach us all the true meaning of teamwork!



**Marshmallow Challenge:** Below left, Jonny Trogman, Nick Tew, Jacob Fuller. At right, Eva Melnik and Vincent Paez. Middle right, Scott Deck (our new resource teacher), Hunter Tavolieri, Nick Kryss, Bailey Watson. Bailey Watson leads the senior class in this his 4th year attending OVHS.



Below left, Drake Ballas, Derren Cruz  
Below right, Mr. McGugan, Anais Armstrong, Bella Hirsch, Stephanie Greenberg, Aaron Villaescusa





## Technology At OVHS

OPUSD is a leader in educational technology and its use in the classroom. OVHS continues to benefit from this, and the evidence is clear in our classrooms and curriculum.

Over the summer, Mrs. Liepman's and Mrs. Kelem's Computer On Wheels (COW) was upgraded with newer Mac laptops. All student computers were upgraded with the latest software.

Teachers work together to fully implement the new district technology standards into our curriculum. We are one of the pilot schools for this in the district.

Mrs. Kelem serves at the school's "techlite," making sure we are all trained on the latest hardware and software available. Ms. Allen represents the school on the district technology committee, tasked with long-range planning and implementation.

Finally, all 3 teachers are using Google Classroom this year and will continue to integrate the use of Google docs into the curriculum. Our Computers class offers Microsoft certification in Word as an option for all students.



## Thursdays

Every Thursday during period 6, staff and students shake the dust off and change things up. Mrs. Liepman will take a group of students for a walk and talk through our beautiful surrounding trails. She is seen with Cody Marshak at left. Mr. Rogers, Mr. McGugan, and Mr. Deck will lead teams in kickball or football, competing for dominance (and burritos — winningest team at the end of the quarter gets Chipotle!). Students in Ms. Allen's class are learning to knit, as Taylor Devers is doing at right. Whatever your interest, it is a fun way to finish out a Thursday.

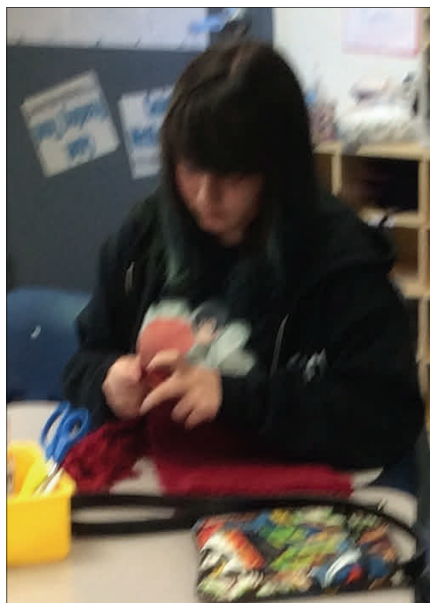


## Awards

Regularly staff members hand out both AAA (Triple A) and Step Up Awards to students who have earned them.

**AAA Award** — This is a teacher-given classroom award for the student in who has the best attitude, attendance, and achievement. Sometimes, it is given to a student who has had the most improvement in one or more of those areas. These awards are given approximately twice per quarter in all classes. Students earn a certificate, a treat, and a congratulatory speech in front of their peers in the classroom.

**Step Up Award** — This award is given to students who have stepped up in some way. It can be for mastering a personal challenge such as getting to school on time every day or getting a job or taking the SAT. It could be given by a staff member for exemplary behavior or personal growth evidenced in or out of the classroom. They are awarded in front of all peers at a Check Out Assembly like the one pictured on page 2.



## Help Us Stock Up On Supplies for the Year!!

First, thank you to parents who have already brought in supplies for our school.

With our site budget still impacted by budget cuts, we rely on parent donations of goods and money to make it through the year.

**Our students are not required to bring any supplies to school; we appreciate your assistance in making sure they never go wanting.**

If you can, please make a monetary donation (tax deductible) to the school or send in school supplies such as copy or lined paper, pens, pencils, 3-ring notebooks, Kleenex, etc. Ms. Roberts always has information on what is needed. She can be reached at (818)735-3217.





At Oak View, students are encouraged to become citizens of the world. All students are required to complete 15 hours of community service (1 credit) and may complete up to 75 hours (5 credits). The way this requirement is fulfilled is based on personal choice. Students may complete these hours through non-profit organizations or at school via the community service class, work in the garden, and other activities. We can all make a difference in the world, and a great place to begin is in our own communities. Mr. Rogers can help guide students in earning their hours, which will be kept track of on a form available from Mrs. Roberts.

Above, staff members get into the spirit of community service in our organic garden. No salad is more delicious than the ones with ingredients from our very own garden!

Below, students participate in a field trip to The Aquarium of the Pacific. It was an all-school field trip that everyone enjoyed, though it was specifically designed to get students off to a great beginning in Ms. Kelem's Marine Science class. Project-based instruction is very hands-on, and the education programs at the aquarium fit right in with that. Students had close encounters with animals common to local tide-pools as well as shells, teeth, and bones of Pacific marine life.



**Microsoft**

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Respect, Resilience, Responsibility

Mailing Address Line 1  
Mailing Address Line 2  
Mailing Address Line 3  
Mailing Address Line 4  
Mailing Address Line 5

**Back to School Night**  
**August 25, 6:00-7:30**



# August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	First Day of School 9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	Flex Friday 19	Lily's birthday 20
21	Jonny Trog- man's birth- day 22	Picture Day 23	24	Back to School Night 25	Flex Friday 26	27
28	Clean Teen Beach Trip 29	AAA awards See page 8 30	31			