

Oak Views

Project-Based Learning

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Project-based learning (PBL) is a powerful movement in education and OVHS is capitalizing on it. PBL is student-centered learning wherein the students themselves organize, seek, and process the learning guided by teachers. They take on real world questions, problems, or challenges and acquire the necessary learning through their own questioning and discovery. Students call on different types of resources to do so. At right, Ms. Pria Adams, a former apartment complex manager, answers student-

generated questions about how to get and successfully maintain an apartment. This is part of their work in Consumer Math. Students chose projects that apply directly to their own life, such as purchasing a car,

starting a business, or renting an apartment.

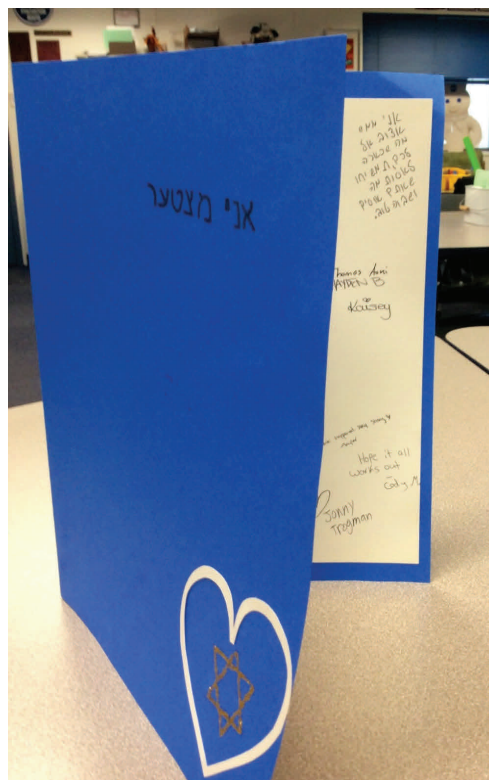
Each of the teachers here at OVHS implements PBL in their own way. Check out page 4 to see what Mrs. Liepman is up to.



Thank you to the Feemster and Dobbie families for art/craft donations!

Donations Requested:

- iPod Nano for students to use during quiet work time — to be loaded with instrumental music
- Craft items for Design Crafts (esp. decorative paper, stencils, and black Sharpies)
- Coffee supplies for Seniors Coffee & Tea Bar
- Gift cards from book stores or Amazon to expand student library
- Stained Glass supplies and equipment



Students Push Back Against Hate

On February 11, four young men spread messages of hate around our neighborhood, targeting several homes and the Chabad of Oak Park down the street. Our students were outraged at this affront to our values. These hateful messages had to be drowned out by messages of support. And so, Amanda Rosen made a card and students wrote their messages of support and love to our neighbors.

Two of these messages follow:

I know how it feels to be threatened and lately there have been many more rea-

sons to be afraid. But what we all need to do is stay strong. Continue to preach peace and it will come.

What happened to you guys was very wrong, and I hope you are comforted that your community is standing with you.

Our students represent what is best in the world and they are ready to make a positive impact wherever they can. The Acorn story can be seen at the link below.

http://www.theacorn.com/news/2017-02-23/Front_Page/Oak_Park_hate_speech_strikes_again.html

Principal's Corner

We are all very thankful with our most recent bond measure passing and are looking forward to the start of the Solar Electric Installation in the Oak View High School parking lot. The project is set to start the week of April 3rd. Please note during the installation of the OVHS parking lot will have very limited parking. The current parking sports will be temporarily fenced off during the duration of the project (April-July, 2017). We know this is a major inconvenience to all, but it is unavoidable due to the need to complete the majority of the project prior to June to earn the maximum energy credits from Edison Electric.

Our most important concern is the safety of our students, staff, and family members as they arrive and leave school each day. Staff, students and parents will need to park on Confier St or Medea Creek Lane, if there are no parking spots available. Please plan on parking on one of these streets and walking to your location.

The cost for all of the schools in Oak Park USD is \$6,917,318. This covers the design, the construction, and the commissioning. The 25-year maintenance contract is \$1,131,130 provides complete maintenance for the solar energy system, including a production guarantee. However, this district-wide solar energy project will save the district \$8 million dollars over the 25-year contract.

The science behind these systems can be used in the classrooms in many ways. Students can monitor the solar energy systems' generation, so that students and teachers can track the production of the power plants. Teachers and student also will have access to weather stations, so that the solar production and weather can be tracked together and the effects on one another can be analyzed. The lessons on these systems can be incorporated into the classroom.



Oak Park Unified School District is exemplifying their commitment to clean air, saving money for kids, providing shade for those that use the field spaces and parking lots, and providing educational opportunities for students through the construction of solar energy systems at all campuses.

If you would like further information please use this link:

<http://www.oakparkusd.org/SolarProjects>

Stew McGugan

Alumni Update



At left, STAR Scholar and valedictorian Alleen Sedas (2014) stopped in to show off her new baby Sophia. She is working through an online program to earn her certification as a veterinarian technician when she can and plans to seek employment in the field when done.

At right, Dylan Wallace (2012) celebrates a promotion at work with Mrs. Liepman. He is in management training at Game Stop where he has worked for the past three years. Adult living is pretty great these days.

Anissa Hewitt (2013 for junior year) has finished her requirements and now has a very difficult choice. She was accepted into both CSUN and CSUCI to finish her upper division courses toward a degree in



psychology and must choose which program works best for her. What a nice problem to have.

Notes From the February School Board Meeting

At the regular meeting of the Oak Park USD Board of Education held on February 21st, the Oak Park High School Academic Decathlon Team and Coaches, **Robin Midiri and Jan Willis** were recognized for their outstanding achievement at the 2017 Ventura County Academic Decathlon Competition. The board also recognized **Brenna Gutell** with the Partners in Education Award. The Board heard reports from School Board Members, the Student Board Representative, and the Superintendent. The Board also heard reports from Oak Park Neighborhood School, Oak Hills Elementary School, Red Oak Elementary School, and Oak Park High School Site Councils. Ryan Rosen provided an update on the Oak Park Education Foundation. Dr. Knight provided an update on the District of Choice and Dr. Jay Greenlinger presented an overview of the New Accountability Dashboard.

The Board took action and/or approved the following:

CONSENT ITEMS

- Approved Purchase Orders – January 1- January 31, 2017
- Approved Overnight Trip for Oak Park High School Athletic Teams to Attend Winter CIF Play-offs
- Approved Overnight Trip for Oak Park High School Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Team Member – March 9-10, 2017
- Approved Overnight Trip for Oak Park High School Boys' Volleyball Team – March 10-12, 2017
- Approved Overnight Trip for Oak Park High School's Health Occupational Students of America Club Members – March 16-19, 2017
- Approved Overnight Trip for Oak Park High School Technology Students Association Club – March 25-26, 2017
- Approved Overnight Trip for Oak Park High School Athletic Teams to Attend Spring CIF Play-offs
- Approved Renewal Agreement for Audit Services - *The Board renewed the agreement with Christy White and Associates to perform audits of the District's annual financial statements, its Proposition 39 bond programs, and its District of Choice program.*

ACTION ITEMS BUSINESS

- Approved Projected Enrollment of New Inter District Students for 2017-2018 - *Our resident Kindergarten enrollment has been better than projected, which is a healthy sign. A new enrollment projection of 4652 was approved for the 2017-2018 school year. A total of 381 new inter-district students will be accepted for enrollment in the 2017-18 school year.*
- Approved Resolution #17-03 - 2017 Oak Park Schools Education Foundation to Offer Fee Based Summer

School Program

- Approved Resolution #17-04, Authorizing the Issuance of Oak Park Unified School District (Ventura County, California) Election of 2016 General Obligation Bonds Series A, and Actions Related Thereto - *The Board approved to allow the District to finance voter-approved projects through the issuance of the first series of bonds under Measure S in an aggregate principal amount, not-to-exceed \$15,000,000.*
- Approved Reimbursement Resolution #17-05, Declaring District Intent to Advance Funds for Measure S Projects, to be Reimbursed Upon Issuance of Measure S Tax-Exempt General Obligation Bonds - *The District has elected to advance certain of its own funds toward the start of Measure S projects. The District will advance funds on the knowledge that it could be reimbursed for amounts expended on such improvements from the subsequent sale of any Bonds. In order to qualify for reimbursement of such costs from the proceeds of a Bond issue, the Board is required to adopt a resolution which satisfies all the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code within 60 days of the date on which the expenditures had been made.*
- Approved Process for Recruitment and Appointment of Oak Park Citizens' Oversight Committee Members (OPCOC) for 2017-18 Term - *The Board authorized the District staff to advertise for qualified candidates, accept applications for OPCOC membership for the 2017- 18 term, appoint a Board sub-committee to paper-screen, and interview candidates, and return a recommendation for OPCOC appointments for Board action at a future meeting.*
- Authorized Project to be Funded from Bond Measures R and C6 – Art Court at Oak Park High School - *This conceptual proposal for the Art Court is a covered outdoor learning workspace with college and industry level tools in the patio area adjacent to room C-9.*
- Approved Measure C6 Bond Fund Purchase – Physical Education and Athletic Safety Equipment for Oak Park High School - *Girls' Stunt is a new spring sport, approved by the CIF to create more opportunities for girls to compete in athletics. In order for OPHS to host Stunt competitions, safety mats are required, as they are placed on the gym floor to become the playing field for Stunt practices and competitive routines.*
- Approved Measure C6 Bond Fund Equipment Purchase - LCD Projector Refresh Program for 2016-17 School Year
- Approved Measure C6 Bond Fund Classroom Technology Equipment Purchase – Project 17-04C, Chromebook Carts for Oak Park High
- Approved Resolution #17-06 – Release Temporary Certificated Employees #1 Through #9
- Approved Resolution #17-07 – Determination of

Seniority Among Employees with the Same Seniority Date ("Tie Breaker Resolution")

- Approved Resolution #17-08 - Reducing or Discontinuing Particular Kinds of Service
- Approved Resolution #17-09 – Regarding Administrative Release and Reassignment **CURRICULUM**
- Approved Revised Physical Education Requirements for Oak Park High School - *This revised Physical Education Requirement will expand the exemption for ninth grade students from attending courses of physical education to include Marching Band, Cheerleading Team, and Dance Team to be given credit in lieu of ninth grade PE. These ninth-grade students will earn no PE credit for their engagement in these programs until they have passed the California Physical Fitness Test (CPFT), after which they will be able to earn credits for their participation in PE courses.*
- The Board held a discussion on the development of 2017-18 Local Control Accountability Plan **BOARD**
- Dates Changes for June Board Meetings - *The Board opted to keep the dates already approved for the June Board Meetings. The Budget Study Session will be held as scheduled on June 12 and the Regular June Board Meeting will be on June 19.*
- Approved 2017 CSBA Delegate Assembly Election of Candidates - *The Board voted for the*

two incumbents Christina Urias (Santa Paula USD) and John Walker (Ventura USD) for the 2017 Delegate Assembly ballot.

BOARD BYLAW/POLICIES/ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

- Approved Amendment to the following Board Bylaws, Policies, and/or Administrative Regulations:

Board Bylaw 9323 - Meeting Conduct

- Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 1312.3 – Uniform Complaint Procedures
- Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 – Sexual Harassment
- Board Policy 6142.4 – Service Learning/Community Service Classes
- The Board asked District Staff to bring back Board Bylaw 9240 - Board Training for a second reading with the suggested amendments.

RESOURCES

Project Based Learning

In Psychology class, we researched Erikson's Eight Stages of Life and the crisis that is faced in each stage. After we gathered knowledge about each stage, we each reflected upon our own life and identified an event in our lives that occurred during each stage. We shared the information with each other and designed a "playlist" of songs that address all eight of Erikson's stages. In addition, we went for a visit to the Oak Park Neighborhood School and observed pre-school children. When we returned, the students wrote up an observation, and we talked about the stages that these children are going through now. The following week we went to Belmont Village and visited the dementia patients. The students prepared appropriate crafts for the residents and interacted with them. The next day we wrote up an observation, and we talked about the stage that these people are going through now. **Mrs. Liepman**



Above left, Hallie Buenafe works with a resident of Belmont Village. Above right, Stephanie Greenberg and Sierah Tew get crafty with a new acquaintance. At left, Yasamin Efkhari gives her full attention to a very important story from a student at the district's Preschool OPNS. Below, Hunter Tavolieri takes a moment to play. Below right, Emily Barber creates some beautiful art.

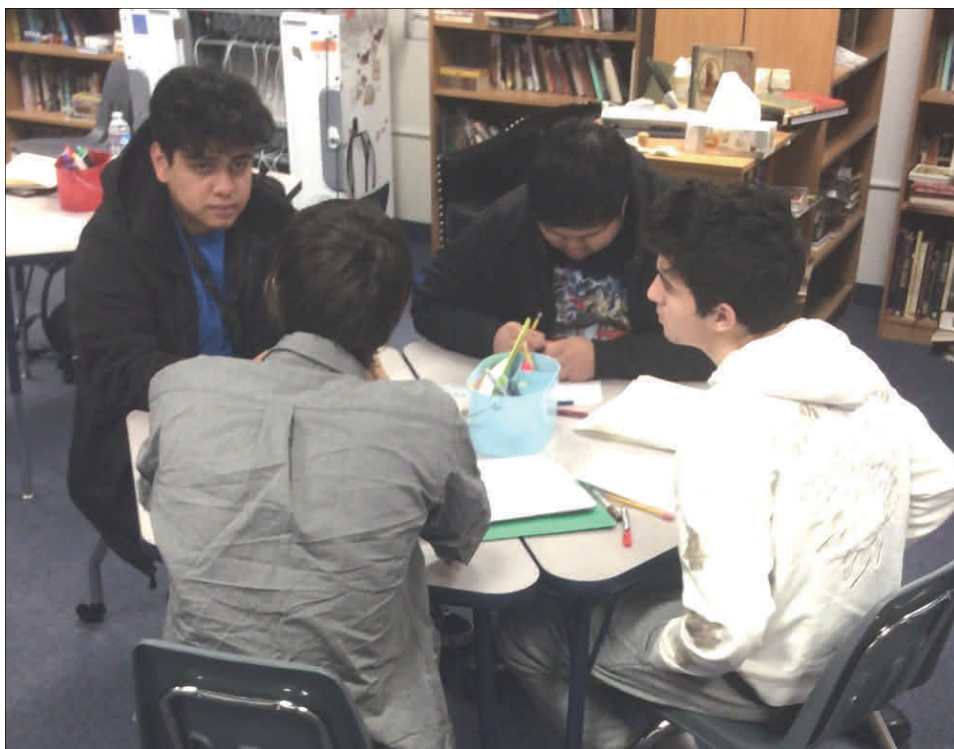


Student Work — Reflection and Discussion As Part of the Learning Process

Research suggests that a written narrative reflecting on finished projects or work can help cement learning. Recently in English, students completed a poster project that tracked the development of Ichiro Yamada, the protagonist in the book *No-No Boy*, by John Okada. At the end of the project, students were required to present the poster as a group. Following are two reflections from students in the class.

In years prior to attending Oak View and my wonderful Careers class, I would always dread presentations in front of my peers. That all changed when I finally got to present something I like talking about for thirty minutes. I felt so comfortable and this led me to apply the same method to any presentation. This method being I have to study and practice the material like I am practicing for a hockey game. I noticed that if I compared my projects and presentations to something I like and used that mindset, I was way more calm and collected when giving my speech. This strategy has helped me to be more vocal with my teachers and peers in school and with friends and parents outside of school. **Nick Kryz**

At Oak View, I have a lot of confidence when it comes to presenting. Like, I know all these kids. I've had tons of various conversations with these guys, so it's really hard for me to get anxious in front of them. If I'm presenting in a room full of strangers, that would be egregiously difficult. One strategy I find helpful is making lots and lots of eye contact because it feels more personal when you look at someone. If I'm not too harshly graded on my eye contact, I find someone in the room that I'm friends with and just act like I'm talking to them! I also try to make it a little funny because it calms me down and makes the situation a little less awkward. Even when I attended a regular high school, I didn't get too nervous with presentations, but at Oak View, it's a piece of cake. It's almost like my opportunity to show off. **Hallie Buenafe**



Above, Rudy Escobar, Thomas Cobain, Andrew Tamisen, and Orr Hersh analyze and discuss poetry in English class. Below, Hady Tawil, Kaisey Tyler-Smith, Xander Smith, and Michael McGee do the same. Their driving question for the quarter — How do we find the truth? Students have searched for an answer by looking at news, poetry, and biases as well as the tools we use to discover meaning.

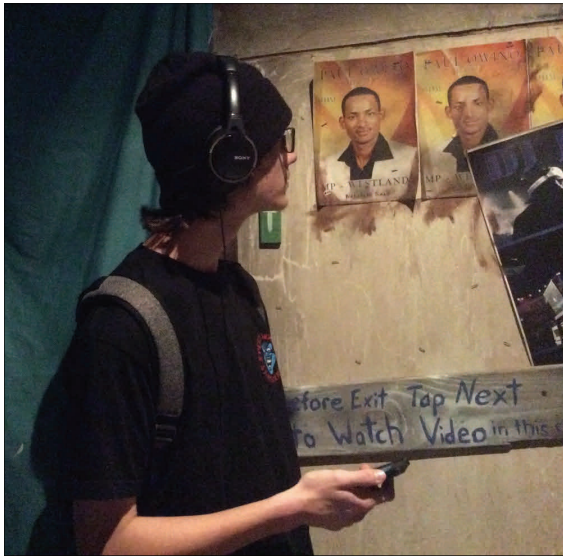


The Compassion Project



The Compassion Project is a travelling show bringing the experience of living in a developing nation to communities in the United States. Our students visited it at La Reina High School in Thousand Oaks recently. Above, Ashe Dobbie. Above right, Jasamin Eftakhari and Chloe Hall. Below right Thomas Aoki, Derren Cruz, Nick Kryss, and Hayden Baratta. Below, Matthew Hoffman, Thomas Cobain, and Aaron Villaescusa.



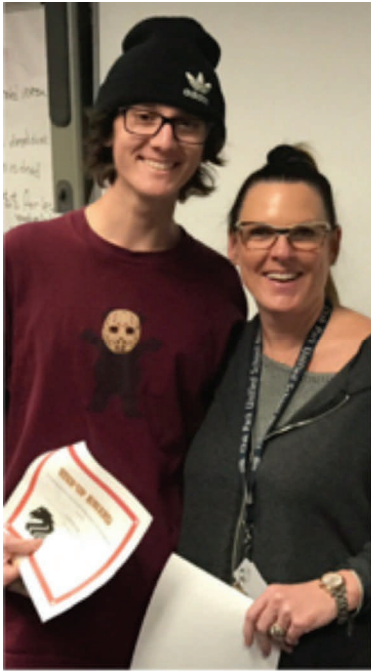


There were two situations students looked at, one from Kenya and the other the Philippines. Students were appalled to see the living conditions children and families have to live in. And yet some, including the two young people whose lives were represented in the tableaux, are able to rise above their circumstances. It helps to have assistance from others. Helping each other is the modus operandi at OVHS.

Above from left to right: Cody Marshak, Rudy Escobar, Emily Barber. At left, Amanda Rosen. Below, we stop for lunch on the way home. Below right, Eva Melnik and Jonny Trogman.



Step Up Awards



These students received Step Up Awards at a recent assembly. These honorees went above and beyond what is expected in various ways — this time for taking on a special project or getting busy with academics.



Clockwise from far left, Cody Marshak, academics; Parisa Tarani, yearbook; Amanda Rosen and Eva Melnik, academics; Jordan Eminente, academics; Rudy Escobar, academics; Hallie Buenafe, yearbook; Yasamin Eftakhari special projects



Senior Information

Graduation is Friday, May 26th

5:00 p.m. at the Oak View High School softball field. Graduates should arrive earlier @ 4:30 dressed in cap & gown (white shirt & tie for boys). Tickets are NOT needed for graduation.

PARKING will only be available on the streets due to construction in our parking lot. Allow extra time.

Mandatory Graduation Rehearsal:

May 26th (Friday), @ 12:00 at the Oak View High School.

Senior dinner: May 9th (Tuesday)
5:45 pm –Cisco's

This annual dinner where we gently roast and toast your senior brings the school together as a family and means a lot to each senior. **Please come;**



You may invite as many relatives as you wish. Please turn in your order forms (\$25 per person) by **April 15th** at the latest.

Individual Senior Portrait: NOW through April 30th If you would like a professional individual senior portrait, sittings are available at O'Connor Bros. Photography studio in Simi Valley. Call to schedule your appointment at 805.306.9542.

Moorpark Community College Comes to Oak View

To support OVHS 12th graders' transition from OVHS to Moorpark Community College, OVHS seniors will meet with a representative from the MCC outreach office at OVHS (March 6th and 13th) to start and complete the online portion of their registration. In addition, on Friday, March 24th OVHS seniors will attend the Moorpark Community College preview day at MCC. At this time students will learn about multiple community college resources includ-

ing but not limited to: financial aide, transferring to a four-year University, and the MCC counseling office. OVHS student will also tour the MCC campus, and meet individually with an MCC counselor.



Rudy Escobar, Amanda Rosen, Nick Kryz, and Matthew Hoffman

Entrée to Employment

Ventura County Innovates (VCI) is a program that supports vocational education at Oak View and throughout Ventura County. It sponsored last quarter's Child Development and EMR classes, giving funds for classroom equipment and providing teacher training. Another of the offerings is a yearly Entrée to Employment. Hosted

at CSUCI in Camarillo, young people who are interested in educational careers get to meet the professionals who could hire them. At a lovely dinner, students and professionals sit together discussing challenges and aspirations in the field of education. This is our first year going and it was quite a success. Several students

from Child Development, Rudy Escobar, Jordan Eminente, and Hallie Buenafe, were joined by Hunter Tavorieri, Emily Barber, Hady Tawil, and Ashe Dobbie. Accompanied by Ms. Allen they all had an informative and enjoyable night that ended with a lot of brownies, as seen below left.



Oak Park Unified School District

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Respect
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Viewable online at:

www.oakparkusd.org/Domain/630



March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	Flex Friday 3	4
5	Ms. Allen's birthday 6	7	8	9	End of quarter 3 Flex Friday Derren Cruz's birthday 10	11
12	13	14	15	16	Flex Friday 17	18
Matt Hoffman's birthday 19	20	21	22	23	Flex Friday 24	25
26	27	28	29	30	Flex Friday 31	