

Oak Views

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Principal's Corner, alumni, Dr. Tony Knight | 2/3 |
| Bios of teaching and school staffs | 4/5 |
| Remodel, New Tech, Team Building | 6/7 |
| Thursdays/Supplies/Community Service | 8/9 |
| Calendar | 14 |

Needed!
iPod Shuffles
Yoga Mats
For Classroom
Use

New 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—9:10 |
| Period 2/3 | 9:15—10:25 |
| Break | 10:25—11:45 |
| Period 4/5 | 11:50—12:05 |
| Period 6 | 12:10—12:05 |
| Work Experience | 1:00 — 1:40 |

Friday

| | |
|----------|-------------|
| Period 1 | 8:35—10:05 |
| Period 2 | 10:10—11:40 |
| Break | 11:40 |

The Only Certainty Is That We Will Change

Welcome to a new school year! Big changes are coming to Oak View as we continue 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.

PROGRAM CHANGE

Ventura County Office of Education (VCOE) is spearheading a major upgrade in vocational offerings, and OVHS is right at the front of the line to obtain these opportunities for our students. Beginning quarter 2, students will partake of job shadows and internships in a variety of vocational paths including construction, education, and insurance. OVHS students will be vetted and matched with appropriate opportunities where they can be hands-on in learning what various jobs entail.

SCHEDULE CHANGE

These options will occur on Fridays during the school day (and possible Thursday afternoons). Students who qualify for this program will not be required to come to school on Friday as they will be otherwise occupied.

Friday attendance for those not participating in the program will be optional IF: 1. all work has been completed, 2. there are no disciplinary issues, 3. the student has no absences or tardies from Monday through

Thursday.

Parents and students will know on Thursday whether attendance is required for Friday. A list will be posted on the office door. Parents of students who are eligible to skip Friday will be notified by email.

Students who are NOT required to attend on Friday may still do so to keep on track with the hours necessary to complete required classes.

One classroom will be set up as a study hall for students to quietly complete makeup work. One classroom will offer instruction and projects that will vary from week to week. Teachers will share responsibility for these classes, as well as in supervising students who are participating in the off-campus internships and job shadows.

INSTRUCTIONAL CHANGE

This is actually more of a further evolution. Two of our teachers (Mrs. Liepman and Ms. Allen) 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.

NEW COURSE OFFERINGS

Juniors will take a new course entitled Jobs that will walk them through the process of getting ready for, obtaining, and keeping a job. It will be taught by Ms. Allen who also teaches the senior requirement Careers.

Our computer applications requirement will now be met via an online course that will also offer students Microsoft certification in Word and (next year) Excel. This move is in conjunction with our focus on teaching students real world skills that will help them to get employment.

Physical education will become more aligned with state standards and will focus on developing life-long habits of maintaining good health. Each teacher will be responsible for one quarter of PE. Students will also be offered the opportunity to become CPR and first aid certified.

Below from left to right, Mrs. Roberts (office manager), Ms. Allen (teacher), Mrs. Kelem (teacher), Mr. McGugan (principal), Mrs. Liepman (teacher), Mrs. Tribe (school psychologist), Mr. Rogers (counselor)





Principal's Corner

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 new internship program and incentive program on this evening.

FACILITIES

We have had a huge makeover this summer! We have new carpet, fresh paint, much needed furniture, lockers for students and new lunch tables. Our teachers spent the last part of the school year packing and getting rid of old items. This facelift was much needed and it really turned out beautiful. Big thanks to the District Office Support Staff, who helped to make this a reality.

We have been meeting with VC Innovates all last year to find new ways to increase our practical skills. We are looking to add Education, Patient Care, and Mental and Behavioral Health classes next year.

VENTURA COUNTY INNOVATES

We are working with VC Innovates to have them bring to our school a Screen Printing Class every Friday for half the day. This is a great new

way for our students to get a practical skill for their graduation requirements. We have had very few options in the past. We have been meeting with VC Innovates all last year to find new ways to increase our practical skills. We are looking to add Education, Patient Care, and Mental and Behavioral Health classes next year.

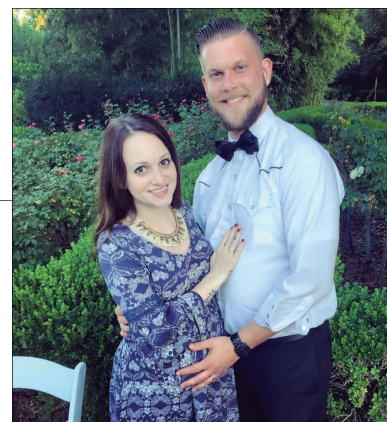
At right, Alexa and Tyler Wood and soon-to-be Baby Charlotte.

WASC YEAR

All high schools go through a Western Association of School and Colleges (WASC) accreditation. We completed ours in 2010 and received a 6-year accreditation. WASC helps certify to the public that OVHS is a credible institution for learning. It also validates the integrity of OVHS's program and our students' transcripts for those students pursuing a college or university. We will be going through our review with the WASC visiting team and sharing our school with them. This is truly a team process with parents, staff, students, district office personal and the WASC team all working together. The WASC team is here to help us to validate our school and to view us through a different lens. We feel that we are extremely ready for the visit and can not wait to show all of the great changes that we have made in the last six years. I believe that we have met all of our past WASC goals and we are looking forward to sharing our new goals with them.

I would like to thank Linda Roberts for her efforts in getting our staff and school prepared for the new school year. Without all of her hard work, the year would not begin so smoothly. She puts in many hours and her efforts are not unnoticed. Also, I would like to recognize our teachers who have spent the summer writing the curriculum for new courses for which they are now teaching. Thank you for all your time and effort Susan, Randi, and KC.

Thank you,
Stew McGugan
Principal



finishes up her degree online. Shannon Moss ('13)

starts at the College of Staten Island in January. She will double major in communications and journalism. Zack Lewine ('13) has finished up 2 years at Lane Community College in Oregon. He is taking a break to work full time and save up money for the next leg of his journey.

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 a very big senior class and we are excited to see them graduate in the spring. Going into my third 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 and upcoming events. Here's to a great year!

OFFICE MANAGER OPIS

Cristina Sanchez has moved over to the OVHS office (Alternative Education Office). This will make collaborating so much easier for all office staff. Cristina brings a great energy to the office and she works well with the students. Having her in the main office will benefit the staff and students alike. We are extremely lucky to have her with us.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT

Back to School Night will be held on August 27th at OVHS. You and your student will be able to visit each classroom, hearing about what

Alumni Roundup

Our graduates have been busy over the summer! The class of 2015 has seen Alex Voneiff already enrolled in community college, Carter Smith travelling to Virginia, Sean Harvey getting a job at Sharkey's, and Shiana Ramos getting ready to matriculate at Oregon State University.

Jessica Horbury-Jones ('09) continues her work as a nanny in Malibu. Eric Rosen ('08) is going for his PhD. in

Counselor Education and Supervision through Texas Tech University. Andrew Levine ('08) is now the Senior Front-End Engineer at OnPrem Solution Partners in Austin, Texas (that's a senior developer to you and me). Alexa Wood ('06) has returned to school at Moorpark College (studying history), while working and carrying her first child with husband Tyler. She will be a wonderful mother! In the same vein, Jenna Hamilton ('10) is pregnant with baby number 2 (Jackson will have a brother!) as she

A Message From Tony Knight, Superintendent

Dear parents,

In a few days we will be welcoming your child(ren) into our schools and classrooms in Oak Park and we do so with open arms and hearts. When school starts on Tuesday, August 11, the students will find that even though we are starting two weeks earlier this year with our new calendar in place, teachers and staff are ready to welcome them. I hope you had a good summer, even though this was the 'year of the short summer.' Being in an Oak Park classroom is a great experience but everyone works hard and I'm sure our students and staff will look forward to a full week off at Thanksgiving, ending the first semester at the high schools before winter break, giving our students a true work-free break, and getting out of school for next summer before Memorial Day weekend. I would again like to thank parents for your support of the new calendar, which was developed after participation by our secondary schools in the Stanford University *Challenge Success* program in order to find ways to help reduce stress on our high school students. However, I know not everyone is excited about the change but we are

confident it will end up being a positive one.

On the Crest of a Wave

As we begin the 2015-16 school year we are on the crest of a wave of historic reform in education that encompasses the curriculum, standards, instructional methodologies, materials, assessment, and the funding model. For the first time these components are aligning in a way that few thought would have ever been possible. These changes present major challenges for all of us as we need to invest time and resources in professional development, new materials, technology, and most importantly, look for new ways to provide more time for collaboration as we make these changes. Oak Park USD has been ahead of the curve on these issues as our philosophy has leaned toward a more holistic, project-based, and experiential learning experience for our students. It seems that things are now catching up to what research has shown to be the most effective ways that people learn and what we have been practicing in our Oak Park schools for a long while. Nevertheless, much is new and these changes present wonderful opportunities for us to break new ground in the way we teach and our students learn. I like to refer to our work on these initia-

tives as *A New Perspective on Teaching, Learning, and Collaboration* and I look forward to writing to you more about it this year and also to speaking to you at school meetings that will be scheduled again this year.

Our SBAC testing results are arriving but we have not received all of them as yet. These will be mailed home. At first glance it appears that our students performed well on the new tests but we have not yet benchmarked them with similar districts. As we move to implement the New California Standards (new name in California for our version of the Common Core), and we align the curriculum, instructional materials, teaching methodologies, student learning activities including more infusion of technology, and classroom assessments, they will only improve.

I look forward to providing you with more information about the exciting things going on in Oak Park Schools and thank you for your continued support. It's going to be another great year!

Dr. Tony Knight
Superintendent

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 went to Yellowstone and Glacier national parks with her fiancé and visited family in Oregon and Washington. She is finishing a major home remodel as well as a classroom remodel. Come by 101 and see the wonderful changes.

In her fourteenth 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 the new Jobs class for juniors as well as Microsoft Word certification in Computers class.

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 25 and Sarah 20. 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



KC Kelem is new to Oakview High School this year. The last 6 years she has been teaching all levels science including middle school 6th-8th, and high school biology, geoscience, 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 23 years raising her four children who range in ages from 29-11.

Prior to becoming a teacher, Mrs. Kelem worked in the Bio-tech 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.

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 7 grandchildren and another on the way! She began working for OPUSD in 1997 as a guest teacher coordinator

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

and the office manager for summer school. She came to OVHS in 2002, so this will be her 14th graduation!

Her favorite thing about Oak View is getting to know the students and working with our great staff. She is excited about working with our new staff

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, on-board 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 California, in particular Oak Park, 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 8th 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.

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 loves watching Notre Dame football team lose!!

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.

Major Remodel!

Over the summer, OVHS went through a major renovation. Principal McGugan continues to improve the physical plant of the alternative program, having transplanted OPIS onto our site last year and upgrading the WAGS softball field last spring. In conjunction with Ms. Suarez at the district office, wonderful improvements have been made in every room of our school.

Major changes include:

Office — Mrs. Tribe, school psychologist will be back two days a week in which to meet with students. In addition, Mrs. Sanchez, the OPIS office manager will share space with Mrs. Roberts OVHS office manager where the staff workroom and student lunch area used to be.

Outdoor campus — New lockers attached to the snack shack will

At right, Ms. Allen's library evolves yet again.

give students a place to store valuables, such as their phones, during the school day. Students can get a lock for a \$5 deposit. New lunch tables also grace the quad just waiting for student use.

Classrooms — Each classroom was painted and recarpeted. In addition, new furniture was provided to facilitate storage and student use needs.

104 — The multipurpose room that we

share with the district office now has a sink and a dishwasher, both of which will come in handy when classes such as Foods and Stained Glass are taught there.

Come on by and have a look around. Staff and students alike will benefit from the renovation. Thank you to Julie Suarez, Annette Segal, and the district office for supporting these upgrades.



Technology Changes

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 Computer On Wheels (COW) was upgraded with newer Mac laptops. Ms. Allen's COW was replaced with Mac Airs that have a dual platform supporting use of the Microsoft Office suite. This changeover will enable

her yearbooks staff to use Macs rather than the ancient Dells to create the yearbook and literary magazine. In addition, it will support student access to the new Computers curriculum that will facilitate students becoming certified in Word.

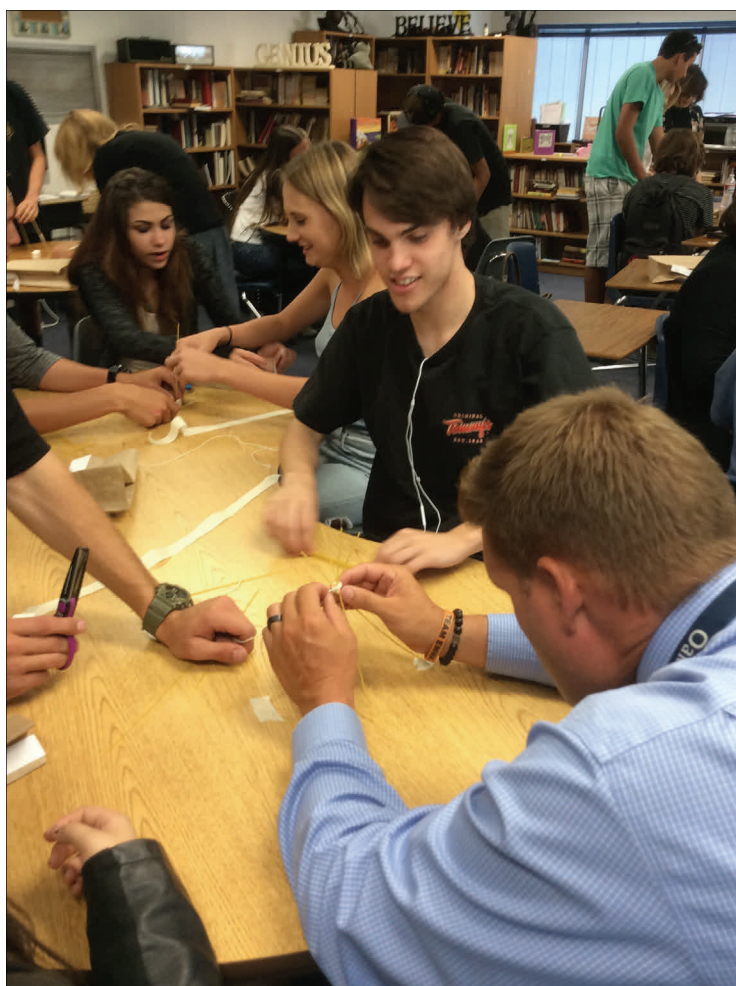
Teachers will work together to fully implement the new district technology standards into our curriculum. We are one of the pilot schools for this in the district.

Mrs. Kelem will be serving as the school's techlite this year, supporting the use of iPads in the classroom. She will also work with the science department at OPHS to implement iPads in her laboratory assignments.

Finally, we will all explore the "cloud" this year as we move our documents into Google drive for more seamless storage and retrieval and to facilitate saving on the reams of paper we go through every year.

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, Madison Giger, Chloe Hall, Kelvin Pereira, and Mrs. Kelem work together to create the innovative design incorporating spaghetti noodles, tape, string, and a marshmallow that made up the tallest tower (at 24.5"). Teams of 4 had to work together creative and collaboratively to create their structure in just 18 minutes. All but 1 of the 8 teams succeeded in crafting a free-standing structure. Below left, Marissa Tavolieri, Madi Wescott, Ethan OConnor, and Mr. McGugan experiment with different options. Below right, clockwise, Devon Irribarren, Stephanie Greenberg, Marselienna Von Eschen, Laura Williams, Kyle Wiltshire, and Mrs. Tribe test out their designs.



Thursdays...



Above, Blake Rosen, Scott McIntosh, Kelvin Pereira, and Jordan Corbett play football.

At left, Madi Westcott, Marissa Tavolieri, Margaret Ringe, Mrs. Liepman, and Hallie Buenafe go for a walk.

Below left, Jules Cesarani and Devon Irribarren vie for first base



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. Mr. Rogers and Mr. McGugan will lead teams in kickball or football, competing for dominance (and burritos — winningest team at the end of the quarter gets Chipotle!). Ms. Allen will take students around the campus for beautification or maintenance or facilitate community service projects beyond our school. Whatever your interest, it is a fun way to finish out a Thursday.

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, notebooks, Kleenex, etc. Ms. Roberts always has information on what is needed. She can be reached at (818)735-3217.

Community Service



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. The garden will be modified this summer to accommodate changes made to the softball field, but a new crop is already in evidence.

Below, students participate in our yearly gift-giving trip to the Lokrantz School, for developmentally delayed elementary students. Students have been providing gifts to students there for over 20 years and count it as one of their favorite activities. OVHS students purchase and give requested items to Lokrantz students at a wonderful ceremony in December.



Microsoft

Oak View High School
5701 E. Conifer
Oak Park, CA 91377

Phone: (818)735-3217
E-mail: sallen@opusd.org

Picture Day, August 25

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 27



August 2015

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|--|---|-----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | Office Open Madison's birthday 3 | Office Open 4 | Office Open 5 | Professional Development / Office Open 6 | Professional Development / Office Open 7 | 8 |
| 9 | Pupil Free Day/ Office Open 10 | First Day of School 11 | 12 | 13 | All Students Attend Kyle's birthday 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | Lily's birthday 20 | Flex Friday 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | Picture Day 25 | 26 | Back to School Night Cody's and Billy's birthday 27 | Flex Friday 28 | 29 |
| Madi's birthday 30 | 31 | | | | | |