

Oak Canyon Jr. High School

Together, We Learn For Life
Fall 2012

September

19th & 20th
Parent Teacher Conferences
& Book Fair
3:00 - 6:30 P.M.
24th
Minimal Day - out at 12:25
26th
7th Grade Job
Shadowing Day
28th
Picture Make-up Day

October

11th, 12th & 15th
No School - Fall Break
18th
8th & 9th Choir Concert
26th
End of Term 1

November

5th
Minimal Day - out at 12:25
8th, 9th, & 10th
School Musical
21st, 22nd & 23rd
No School - Thanksgiving Break
29th
7th Grade Choir Concert

December

6th
Band Concert
11th
8th & 9th Grade Choir Concert
13th
Orchestra Concert
14th
9th Grade Night Dance
20th - Jan 2nd
No School - Christmas Break

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school. This has been a great start to the school year. I am so impressed with the students and our faculty and staff. As the new principal, I have been welcomed by everyone. I am coming from Lehi High School where I have been an assistant principal. Mr. Young, who is coming from American Fork Jr. High School, is also new and brings with him vast experience as an administrator.

We also have many new teachers this year. Andrea Bytheway, who is teaching Drama; Whitney Christensen, teaching History; Jenna Flood, returning to teaching French; Jed Francis, teaching Art; Jena Gregory, teaching Math; Devin Lindley, teaching P.E.; Jason Miller, teaching

Spanish and History; Doug Panee, returning to teach Science; Jacob Perazzo, teaching History and Bridget Fielding, teaching Science. They are working very hard, and it is impressive the amount of time that they are putting in. The students here have the best teachers.

As we move through the upcoming year, we encourage students to get involved in the school. There are many activities including 4-H, PTSA Leadership Council, athletics, CTE clubs, fine arts, Science Demo and many more.

It is also important that our students are in class. If your student must miss class, please let the front office know, so that he/she can be excused.

Oak Canyon has a long tradition of high achievement and

excellence. We are teaching new state standards in Math and English, and those departments are working very hard to make sure that every student understands the material. A huge compliment goes out to our teachers who are working so hard to make sure that our students are successful.

We encourage parents to be involved. The PTSA and School Community Council are great ways to get involved in the school. Both are tremendous resources to us. We look forward to a great year. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact the school and visit with one of the administrators. Thanks for all you do as parents.

Doug Webb
Principal

School Musical - Pirates of Penzance Jr.

This comedic musical is the story of Fredric, a pirate, who wants to become noble, but is torn between his family, the kindhearted pirates and his love, Mabel, who has 20 sisters! The perform-

ances are November 8th, 9th, and 10th, at 7:00 P.M., in the school auditorium. Tickets are \$5.00 each. Please come support us and enjoy a fun evening of singing and dancing!



BOOK FAIR!

"The more that you read, the more things that you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you will go."
- Dr. Seuss

Oak Canyon's students love to read! In fact, last year our students checked out 15,088 books!

The PTSA will be hosting our semi-annual book fair again this year. We hope that our students will take some time to come to the library and see all the books that will

be available to buy.

This is also a good time for parents to come and see Oak Canyon's library.

The Book Fair will be held during Parent Teacher Conference hours on Wednesday, September 19th and Thursday, September 20th, from 3:00 - 6:30 P.M.

Come support Oak Canyon and the PTSA! You will find some great reading material!



Mid-Term Grades

Parents, mid-term grades are being sent home on Friday, September 14th. Please take some time to go over grades with your student. This is a good time to celebrate success or work on improvements prior to Parent Teacher Conferences on September 19th or 20th.

PTSA Student Leadership Council

The PTSA will be sponsoring a Student Leadership Council. The purpose of the council is to give students an opportunity to be peer leaders and provide service and support for PTSA, school and community programs.

Meetings will be held the 3rd Thursday of each month for 1.5 hours, right after school in the cafeteria.

Why have a Student Leadership

Council? Being a part of this council will provide leadership opportunities. Students will do fun service projects at Oak Canyon and also in the community. Students will also receive leadership training based on "7 Habits for Highly Effective Teens." Students will also be encouraged to give their feedback and ideas for student programs, which will in turn help them feel ownership in the programs that the PTSA sponsors.

Participating students will receive a team t-shirt and movie tickets for their participation.

This opportunity is for all 7th - 9th graders with a 3.5 or higher GPA. Students will also need parent permission and 1 teacher reference.

Pick up an application in the front office if you are interested. We hope that you will join our team soon!

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."
- John Quincy Adams

Oak Canyon Can Dance!

Oak Canyon Jr. High PTSA is sponsoring their own take on the hit Fox series "So You Think You Can Dance."

There will be a juried competition for Oak Canyon single, couple and group entries. If entering as a couple or group, half of the team must be comprised of Oak Canyon students, and all contestants must be in 7th, 8th or 9th grade at Oak Can-

yon. Auditions will be held on Thursday, January 10, 2013, from 2:20 to 5:00 P.M. The competition will be held on Thursday, January 24th at 7:00 P.M.

Students will have the opportunity to win a \$100 cash prize, a wall plaque and bragging rights for an entire year!

Applications and information sheets

will be available in the front office in December. In the meantime, start working on your audition numbers (1 1/2 - 2 minutes in length).

We hope you will come join us! This will be a great opportunity to showcase Oak Canyon's awesome dancers!



PTA *Reflections* Art Contest



Reflections is an annual program that encourages students' artistic talents.

The *Reflections* theme for 2012 - 2013 is "The Magic of a Moment".

There are multiple categories of Music, Photography, Visual Arts, Literature, Dance, Theatre, 3D, Film and Video. Entry forms and information can be picked up in the front office.

Entries must be submitted to specification guidelines no later than November 5th. There will be cash prizes for the top five in each category.

Some teachers will offer extra credit for participation in this program. This is a great and fun way for students to improve creativity and experience art in many different ways.

Parent Teacher Conferences - 9/19 & 9/20

It is hard to believe that we are already almost halfway through our 1st term. We look forward to having our parents come to Parent Teacher Conferences. Please join us on Wednesday, September 19th or Thursday, September 20th, from 3:00 - 6:30 P.M. This is a perfect time to meet your student's teachers and to celebrate your student's successes or to talk about ways to enhance their learning process.

At our school, our teachers collaborate each Monday. This means that they sit down in their departments and talk about ways to make the learning experience better for their students. Parents can further enhance this process as they come to Parent Teacher Conferences and collaborate with teachers.

In an article written by Andrea Canter, Ph.D., NCSP, it states "Research has proven that when parents and teachers

work together, everyone benefits: students tend to earn higher grades, perform better on tests, attend school more regularly, have better behavior, and show more positive attitudes toward themselves and toward school."

We hope that you and your student will come and benefit from this opportunity.

Oak Canyon's *National Geographic Explorer*

Our very own Mr. Doug Andersen, who teaches World Studies here at Oak Canyon, had the opportunity of a lifetime this past summer! Mr. Andersen and six other teachers were chosen from among thousands of applicants to travel to Svalbard, Norway, an archipelago about 600 miles from the North Pole. Mr. Andersen flew to Oslo, Norway and boarded the Lindbald Expeditions ship called *National Geographic Explorer*. On board, he had the opportunity to see many things, a few of which include glaciers, the arctic

tundra, arctic foxes, polar bears, whales, and walrus. He was amazed at the diverse species and vast number of birds that inhabit the region.

Mr. Andersen feels that being a participant on this expedition, seeing the beauty of the arctic for himself and being able to work with professional explorers has truly enhanced his knowledge of this territory. He desires to pass on the things he learned to his students, so that they will be inspired to explore the world and make it a better place.



Other Important Information:

Picture Make-Up Day will be in the morning on Friday, September 28th. All students need to have a picture taken for the yearbook, even if a packet is not being purchased. If your student has not had their picture taken yet this year, please encourage them to do so.

7th Grade Job Shadowing: On Wednesday, September 26th, the 7th grade students will have the opportunity to complete a job shadow experience at a business of their choice. A form along with detailed information was sent home with all of our 7th grade students. This form must be turned in for approval from a CTE teacher by September 20th. The purpose of this day is to help students learn about the world of work and help them prepare for their future careers. If you have any questions, please contact your student's CTE teacher.

4-H Afterschool has started, and there is still room in some of the clubs. Oak Canyon offers a great after school program. There are different activities every day after school for 2 hours each day, with each club meeting for a total of 15 times per semester. Students meet together in the lunchroom for ½ hour for healthy snacks and games. Then, they go to their clubs for 1½ hours. The cost is \$5.00 per club, which covers all supplies for the semester. Registration forms can be picked up in the front office, or can be printed from the 4H link under "Students" on the Oak Canyon web site. Students can sign up for 1 to 5 clubs, but can only take one club per day. This semester's clubs are as follows:

Mondays	1:30 - 3:30	4H Olympics or Theater Tech
Tuesdays:	2:30 - 4:30	Woodshop or Cooking
Wednesdays:	2:30 - 4:30	Woodshop or Drawing Made Easy or Theater Tech
Thursdays:	2:30 - 4:30	Advanced Woodshop or Cooking II or Pottery
Fridays:	2:30 - 4:30	Stained Glass Art or Theater Tech

Many of the clubs have filled, so please check with Mrs. Linville before signing up for the remainder of this semester. If the club you want is full, we will start a new semester in January, so watch the OCJH webpage for more information after the Christmas break. For questions or to sign up please contact LaRee Linville: 801-610-8138, ext. 117 or llinville@alpinedistrict.org

Attendance

CHECK IN PROCEDURE: Students reporting to school late must check in either at the front office if they are excused (a note or a phone call upon arrival is required) or to the Student Center (Room A128) if the tardy is unexcused.

For clarification, in Skyward you will see the attendance marks listed below:

L = Excused Late
T = Unexcused Tardy

CHECK OUT PROCEDURE: When it comes to checking out your student(s), please keep in mind that our number one concern is their safety. Please review the following procedures:

1. If a student needs to check out or leave campus, we must have a parent or guardian come to the front office and sign their student out. We are aware that this is not always convenient, but we ask for your support.

2. It may be necessary for us to ask for identification. This is simply another step in our process to help us keep our students secure.
3. In a non-emergency situation, students may be checked out by individuals listed on the *Emergency, Health & Release Information* sheet upon prior verification that the parent/guardian is aware that the student is being checked out by the individual listed.
4. In an EMERGENCY(life-threatening event), students may be checked out by individuals listed on their *Emergency, Health & Release Information* form without parent/guardian approval.

Oak Canyon is a CLOSED CAMPUS school. This means that no one may leave our school campus between 7:45 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. (1:15 p.m. on early out days) without being checked out through the front office. This includes lunchtime. If you want to check your student out for lunch, please consider doing so at the end of the school day so that class time is uninterrupted.