

# PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 4, 2023



## EVENTS 9/4-9/17 (SCHOOL EVENTS, PTA EVENTS, HOLIDAYS)

9/4-9/10 (B-WEEK)

9/11-9/17 (B-WEEK)


<p>Homeroom: Academic Skills</p> <p>4 Labor Day--NO SCHOOL</p> <p>5-8 Suicide Prevention Week</p> <p>5-8 7th Grade Rep Posters in Halls</p> <p>5-8 Cornhole Tournament</p> <p>6 Cross Country Meet 5:00-7:00 @ Viewpoint</p> <p>8 7th Grade Rep Winners Announced</p>	<p>Homeroom: COMMUNICATION</p> <p>12 New Student Parties (During Homeroom)</p> <p>12 PTSA Meeting 9:30-10:30 in the TLC</p> <p>12 ASD Board Meeting 6:00-8:00 @ District Office</p> <p>15 First Day of Hispanic Heritage Month</p>
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## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I had some important interactions with students last week. One was an informal conversation with students in my office after school one day. As I asked if their school year was off to a good start, they seemed a little surprised about how well it was going so far. They mentioned that they couldn't put their finger on why, but that things feel

**VISION**

EAGLES BECOME LIFELONG LEARNERS BY DEVELOPING COMMUNICATION, CRITICAL THINKING, COLLABORATION, CREATIVITY, CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP

A graphic with a grey and maroon background. The word "VISION" is in a grey box at the top left. Below it, a white box contains the school's vision statement. The text is color-coded: "COMMUNICATION," "CRITICAL THINKING," "COLLABORATION," "CREATIVITY," "CHARACTER &" are in green, and "CITIZENSHIP" is in orange. An eagle logo is in the bottom right corner.

different at Oak Canyon this year. They assured me that in this case different meant better. I asked them to elaborate, and they said that it just feels "kinder," "softer..." A few days later, I walked past a classroom during Homeroom. I heard the teacher say, "I've already told you why we are doing Homeroom this year." I took that as an opportunity to duck in and answer questions that students might have about Homeroom. I explained that last spring, we surveyed students to see their biggest needs and how we can better serve them at OCJH. From those surveys, we found that there is a need for greater connection with students. I commented that it is a really

special thing that every student at OCJH has a teacher who's purpose in having them in class is to get to know them and to help them feel seen and important at school. On Friday, I was checking in on different Homeroom classrooms and was delighted to see in just one corner of the school a team building activity with floating vessels and pennies, a snow cone party, a kickball tournament between Homeroom classes, and a class enjoying the

beautiful day walking around the track. A student made sure to tell me that she loves Homeroom and that it should be a full class period each day. I realize that we are still working out some of the details, but I agree that OCJH feels different this year, and I think Homeroom has a lot to do with it! It's going to be another great week!

Mrs. Ross

## NEW INFORMATION

### FROM THE OAK CANYON PTSA

We encourage all to join the PTSA--the membership dues go a long way for our school. In addition, Eagle cards are a great value for all of the discounted goods and services they provide. **You can pay for a membership/Eagle card through My School Fees or at the Finance Office window.**

Also, SAVE THE DATE, our next OCJH Spirit Night is on Tuesday, September 19th at Kneaders from 5:00-8:00 PM!

### CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT THIS WEEK

It's not too late for student teams to sign up for the Cornhole Tournament happening this week during both lunches in the commons area. Students should make sure that they have the same lunch as their Cornhole partner. It's going to be a blast! We hope to see you there--playing with your partner or cheering the teams on!

### CHROMEBOOK INSURANCE--TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

So far this year we've only had 27 students sign up for the Chromebook insurance. The cost is \$30 which ends up being cheaper than many repairs. For example, for our tech to replace a screen would cost \$50 without insurance. The window to purchase insurance is shrinking--students have 30 days after receiving their device to sign up - that puts us at around Sept 17-21. Please click on the following link for more information about Chromebook insurance:

[Parent Chromebook Insurance Letter](#)

[Parent Chromebook Insurance Letter \(Spanish\)](#)

[OCJH Tech Help Site](#)

### SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL STAFF REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED

Our first SCC meeting of the year will be September 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm in the Conference Room. The School Community Council (SCC) is a group of parents and school staff that meets monthly to discuss the issues facing our school. The SCC creates a school improvement plan and allocates Trustland Funds to help meet our goals outlined in that plan. SCC meetings are open to anyone interested and we are in need of parents to join our board. **If you have some time on the third Tuesday of each month at 2:30 and would like to be a part of our SCC, please click on this [link](#) to submit your name by Tuesday, September 5th at 5PM.** A term on the SCC is two years. If there are more interested than parent positions available, we will have an election.

## INTRAMURAL FUTSAL TOURNAMENT

What: Student Intramural Futsal Tournament

When: September 14th, 21st, 28th, and October 5th.

How: Here is the link to sign up:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfpEC7sc-ZoQLKSQnpYK6tDtihNhm58xxfsp67IldN7IsfOHA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfpEC7sc-ZoQLKSQnpYK6tDtihNhm58xxfsp67IldN7IsfOHA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

## AFTER SCHOOL CONNECTION ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS

We are still adding after school activities, but these are the ones we know of for sure at this point:

M Ballroom (M. Haymond Orchestra Room/Cafeteria) 2:15-3:45

T E-Sports (Redford F115) 2:15-3:00 (Starting 9/5)

T Science in Action (Garlick A-156) 2:20-3:20 **SEE MORE INFORMATION BELOW**

W Ballroom (M. Haymond Orchestra Room/Cafeteria) 1:15-3:00

TH TSA (Redford F115) 2:30-3:30 (Starting 9/7)

F Math Club (Jorgensen B152) 2:15-3:15 (Starting 9/8)

### **We are pleased to offer a new connection activity called Science in Action:**

Have you ever done a **STEM Fair** project?

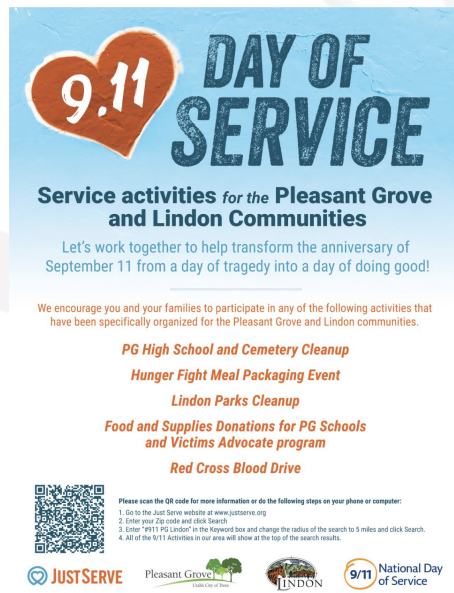
Do you have an interest in science?

Join us for an engaging and educational after school program to expand your scientific horizons and compete in the district science fair! Our first meeting is coming up soon, hope to see you there!

When: Tuesday September 5th @ 2:20pm (and each Tuesday afterwards)

Where: Mr. Garlick's Room

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



**9.11 DAY OF SERVICE**

**Service activities for the Pleasant Grove and Lindon Communities**

Let's work together to help transform the anniversary of September 11 from a day of tragedy into a day of doing good!

We encourage you and your families to participate in any of the following activities that have been specifically organized for the Pleasant Grove and Lindon communities.

- PG High School and Cemetery Cleanup**
- Hunger Fight Meal Packaging Event**
- Lindon Parks Cleanup**
- Food and Supplies Donations for PG Schools and Victims Advocate program**
- Red Cross Blood Drive**

Please scan the QR code for more information or do the following steps on your phone or computer:

1. Go to the Just Serve website at [www.justserve.org](http://www.justserve.org)
2. Enter your ZIP code and click Search
3. Enter "9/11 Day of Service" in the keyword box and change the radius of the search to 5 miles and click Search.
4. All of the 9/11 Activities in our area will show at the top of the search results.

**JUSTSERVE** Pleasant Grove Lindon **9/11 National Day of Service**

## REMINDERS

### OCJH CROSS COUNTRY

Starting August 16th, Cross Country practice is after school from 2:30 to 3:45 M, T, Th, F and from 1:30 to 2:45 on early-out Wednesdays.

### IN FOCUS HOMEROOM CURRICULUM FOR PARENTS

We are excited to report that the materials our teachers will be using/consulting for Homeroom have a robust parent component. Not only can you access lesson material available to your student, but also you can access ways to continue the conversation at home if you like. The web address is [www.infocuseducationgroup.com](http://www.infocuseducationgroup.com) and you can click on the parent portal link at the top. A username and password are not necessary to do this. We will not be following the lessons in the order they are listed on the website. To see which lesson we are focusing on for the week, please refer to the events section of the Newsletter where the topic for the week will be listed. Please let us know if you have any questions!

### FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE--COMMUNITY IMMUNIZATION CLINICS

Please see below a list of Immunization Clinic dates that parents can attend to get 7th grade required immunizations or any missing ones. **Students missing required vaccinations can result in those students not being allowed at school until they have proof of vaccination or a vaccine exemption form has been completed.** Clinics are set up in several schools in the district.

-Monday, August 14th @ Orem Junior from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM

-Wednesday, September 20th @ Timpanogos High School from 2:00pm to 5:00pm.

-The Utah County Health Department located at 151 So. University Ave in Provo is open Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 8 AM to 4:30 PM; Wednesdays 8 AM to 7 PM; Thursday 9 AM to 4:30 PM

-The American Fork Clinic located at 599 South 500 East in American Fork is open Monday to Thursday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM and Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

**All clinics are walk-in. No appointments necessary. Please bring your current immunization record and insurance card.**

### STUDENT INFORMATION UPDATE IN SKYWARD

Now is the time to update any student information in Skyward. This includes updating emergency contacts, student internet permissions, setting preferences to receive school emails and voice messages from the school, and more. This information needs to be updated for each student each year. This is also where you indicate that you give your permission for a student to check out a Chromebook. They cannot check one out without your permission. If you need assistance, please click on this [link](#) for a tutorial.

# OCJH HANDBOOK

For more information about items not specifically addressed in this newsletter, please click on this link to access the Oak Canyon Junior High Handbook. For example, in regard to dress code, the handbook spells out what is allowed and what is not. We have made some adjustments to this policy over the past year, so it would be good to review with your student prior to the first day of school. Information about all other school policies and procedures can be found here as well!

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qP92A\\_0R3Fs8AUfdNIDWm5lpfuNd-igxQ\\_PS\\_qoFQoY/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qP92A_0R3Fs8AUfdNIDWm5lpfuNd-igxQ_PS_qoFQoY/edit?usp=sharing)

## SCHOOL FEES

Fees are now available to pay on [myschoolfees.com](https://myschoolfees.com). If your student will be making changes to their schedule we suggest you wait to pay for fees until their schedule has been finalized. Fee waiver applications are available on our website, at the district's website, or at the finance window. Fee Waiver applications, along with supporting documentation, are due by Sept 30, 2023. Please reach out to the finance office via email at [jhoyal@alpinedistrict.org](mailto:jhoyal@alpinedistrict.org) or by phone 801-610-8141 with any questions. Thank you!


## LUNCH ASSIGNMENTS 22-23

A-DAY TEACHER LUNCH SCHEDULE <small>Determined by A3 Class</small>			
FIRST LUNCH		SECOND LUNCH	
ADAMSON	MILLER	ALLPHIN	JORGENSEN
ANDRUS	MOOREHEAD	ANDERTON	KUNKLE
BETHEL	MONSON	BAILEY	LAMOREAUX
BRASWELL	NGUYEN	BALLER	MEINZER
COOK	OTTERSON	BENCH	MOULTON
GRAHAM	PRESTES	DE LA CRUZ	ROBINSON
HALL	REDFORD	ECALONO	SANDERS
HARDY	SEASTRAND	ESCOBEDO	SEMINARY
A. HOLMES	SHUMWAY	FULLER	SMITH
LAKE	TAYLOR	GARLICK	SPARKS
LISTER	THOMAS	HERMANSEN	VAN KOMEN
MARSHALL	WINTLE	JOHNSON	WHITE

B-DAY TEACHER LUNCH SCHEDULE <small>Determined by B7 Class</small>			
FIRST LUNCH		SECOND LUNCH	
ANDRUS	LISTER	ALLPHIN	JORGENSEN
BETHEL	MARSHALL	BAILEY	KUNKLE
BRASWELL	MILLER	BALLER	LAMOREAUX
COOK	MONSON	BENCH	MEINZER
FLOOD	NGUYEN	CHENEY	MOULTON
GRAHAM	RAWSON	DE LA CRUZ	ROBERTS
HALL	REDFORD	ECALONO	SANDERS
HARDY	ROBISON	ESCOBEDO	SEMINARY
A. HOLMES	SEASTRAND	FULLER	SMITH
T. HOLMES	TAYLOR	GARLICK	SPARKS
JOHNSON	THOMAS	GOOLD	TAYLOR
LAKE	WINTLE	HERMANSEN	VAN KOMEN

## 23-24 BELL SCHEDULE--HOMEROOM AND WEDNESDAY EARLY OUT CHANGES

There are two major changes to our schedule this year: the addition of homeroom 4 times a week, and Wednesday early out day changing from two hours early to only one. Please note the updated bell schedule.

 BELL SCHEDULE MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY	
A1/B5	7:45-9:01
HOMEROOM	9:08-9:35
A2/B6	9:42-10:58
1ST LUNCH	
LUNCH	10:58-11:29
A3/B7	11:36-12:52
2ND LUNCH	
A3/B7	11:05-12:21
LUNCH	12:21-12:52
A4/B8	12:59-2:15
BELL SCHEDULE WEDNESDAY EARLY OUT DAY	
A1/B5	7:45-8:54
A2/B6	9:01-10:10
1ST LUNCH	
LUNCH	10:10-10:43
A3/B7	10:50-11:59
2ND LUNCH	
LUNCH	10:57-11:05

**Homeroom:** This year, each student will be assigned a homeroom class between A1/B5 and A2/B6. Homeroom is 27 minutes on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Students will be mixed with students from their entire grade level as well as some students from the grade level above or below them. The idea for Homeroom came from our teachers as we brainstormed ways that we could intentionally pursue our Vision for Learning as a school and create authentic connections with students. We will be using curriculum from a local company

called In Focus to help us deliberately develop the skills and dispositions listed in the message above. The first four weeks of school we will be discussing the following topics: 8/16 What it Means to Be an Eagle/Lifelong Learning; 8/21 Conditions of Well Being (safety, basic needs); 8/28 Connection and Community Building; and 9/4 Academic Skills. In Focus materials for parents will be shared soon. We are excited about this new opportunity for teachers and students alike.

**Wednesday Early Out Day:** Please note that school will be adjourned at 1:15 on Wednesdays this year. This means that we will run a two lunch schedule like we do on a regular day and conclude the day with A4/B8 rather than a shared lunch. Please note this change and plan accordingly.

