



OSD Newsletter

Every Child, Every Day

December & January

Note from the Principals

Denyse Woods & Greg Mendenhall

Happy New Year! Hard to believe that the year is half way over. We have just finished the second nine weeks, and the first semester. Grade cards and progress reports should arrive home no later than January 31. If you have not received them by then, please contact the school office and let us know.

There are lots of activities happening right now around the school. Some of these activities include, middle school Battle of the Books, elementary reading tutoring, middle school Lego Robotics, boys and girls' varsity basketball, and middle school basketball. Not to mention Homecoming is right around the corner, February 8. Please check out the school website for sports schedules, or updates on the school. Parent involvement is key, and our students are doing a lot of things to make us all proud. You are welcome to any event, and encouraged to attend or be involved at a level that is most comfortable and able to you and your family.

Parent Staff Association News

The PSA continues to meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Our meetings are held from 4:15-5:15. Last month the PSA worked to host a holiday breakfast for teachers and staff, adopted an OSD family for our Helping Hands project to provide Christmas for a family, and executed the elementary holiday party. The group is small, but growing and gaining momentum. For the rest of the year, we will be working on a Square 1 Art Fundraiser (information coming home soon), as well as a career day and bringing back the Spring Carnival. PSA is growing slowly, and could always use more support from parents- both near and far. If you are able to contribute or help in any way, please contact Luis Reyes, president, via email at LEReyesJr@gmail.com or text at 832-607-2617. We hope to see you at a meeting or event soon.

New Staff to OSD

Anthony Coy-Gonzalez

Anthony Coy-Gonzalez teaches high school ASL and English, as well as ASL specials. He recently graduated from Flagler College in St. Augustine, FL where he earned a B.A. degree in Deaf Education (K-12) and Elementary Education (K-6). He is already enjoying his first year of teaching at OSD, a place where he sees the pride, culture, language, and diversity he has come to love in the Deaf community. Despite occasionally missing the sunshine and palm trees, the Hilliard native is thankful to be back in the Buckeye State. His classroom motto is, "Your hands hold the power to both shape your future and transform you dreams into reality."

Congratulations to Mike Adkins, Greg Rinker, and Austin Priestersbach for passing parts of the Ohio Graduation Test! Great Work- we are proud of you!

January

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6	7	8	9	10
13	14 PSA Meeting 4:15-5:15	15 High School Trip to Mid Ohio Food Bank	16	17
20  NO SCHOOL	21	22	23	24
27	28 PSA Meeting 4:15-5:15 100 th Day of School	29	30	31

School Updates

Preschool

Megan Key & Leslie MacFarland

Life has been very exciting in ACC! As a final project for our trees unit, we built a house for our playground! Now, we are studying clothing! And we've already had a special visitor: Zack Smith! He wore his Air Force uniform to school! Additionally, we exchanged holiday cards with classes across North America by participating in the 2013 Holiday Card Exchange! We have a map of where our cards are from and are keeping a tally-- there's even some from Canada and Mexico! Enjoy your break!

Elementary

Gretchen Douglas, Audrey Griffith, Ross Leighner, Emily McDermott, Veronica Shonkwiler, Jessica Sloan, Julie Stewart, Jeani Thomas,

Our Kindergarteners have made New Year resolutions concerning their reading and writing. They are continuing to build their bank of sight words and write narrative stories including details with what happened first, next, and last. In math, they are working on finding different ways to make and represent ten, as well as ordering numbers 0-10. They are also learning to represent addition equations with pictures and objects as well as numbers and operation symbols along with using their math vocabulary. In science, we are discussing the earth, weather, and states of matter. We have also gained two new Kindergarteners that have been a wonderful addition to our OSD family.

Julie and Gretchen's class has been reading about animals in a fable and a nonfiction stories. We compared and contrasted those stories. We have also been learning about what school was like a long time ago. We saw lots of pictures and made a timeline. Friends will begin preparing to make a bigger timeline with events from school so far this year and add to it as the year progresses. We also analyzed some physical changes to matter such as what happens when you heat something (melt, burn), mix it with water (dissolve), and other ways to experiment with matter. We also looked at states of matter including gas, solid, and liquid and we saw that a candle can be all three!

Ross' class has been looking at the United States now and long ago. Students are learning about objects and events from the past and present, and they have made comparisons between the two. Students are also learning about important people from the past and how they contributed to the development of our country.

Thank you to Katey Bowers Schneck, Luis Reyes Jr. and Shannon Racine for your planning the elementary holiday party!

Middle School

Susie Bachtel, Bill Estes, Brooke Hohlbaugh, Phyllis Moore, Amy Massey-Norton Michele Ogden

This month, students in middle school, elementary school and high school came together to discuss what they are thankful for. Students created a construction paper fence, and a tree with leaves that shows what they are thankful. It is all on the wall near the school office. They were also videotaped stating what they were thankful for and it is being shown on our Spartan News channel all day long for the month of November. Come and see it! It'll make your heart melt!!

Middle School Student of the Month

Congratulations to our October Students of the Month. These students had no behavior write ups, no low grades, and only missed up to one homework assignment.



**Chris Adams
Anya Pothorski
Kim Lebo
Jerrick Pothorski
Jordyn Snapp
Jarian Watring
Lacey Sellers
Nicole Greene
Andrew Bonilla
Nevaeh Welsh
Hannah Carter
Guled Ali
Lili Fontana**

Middle School Battle of the Books

For the second year in a row, we will be participating in Gallaudet's Battle of the Books, a competition sponsored by Gallaudet University. There are three groups in the competition, consisting of students who read at the 2nd/3rd grade levels, 4th/5th grade levels, and the 6th grade and above levels. The group names are as follows (in no particular order): Buff- one of Gallaudet's primary colors, Blue- one of Gallaudet's primary colors, and Green- named after Gallaudet's storied Kendall Green. There are three parts to the competition: the Preliminary competition; the Playoffs; and the National competition. The Preliminary competition will be held during the week of January 13-17, 2014. Dates and times will be set up with each school in November/December. The Playoffs will be held during the week of January 27-31, 2014 and the National competition will be held during the weekend of May 3-6, 2014. The purpose of the Battle of the Books is to promote literacy amongst Deaf and Hard of Hearing Middle School students; promote a spirit of academic competition and good sportsmanship; and to encourage critical thinking skills amongst Middle School students. We had tryouts for the teams to participate in the Battle of the Books and we are happy to announce the 2013-2014 teams. Go Spartans Go!!

Buff Team: Jarian Watring, Nicole Greene, Hannah Carter
Nevaeh Welsh

Blue Team: Kimberly Lebo, Jordyn Snapp, Kaleb Crooks
Desirae Frierson

Green Team: Andrew Knox, Anya Pothorski, Averie Panozzo
RaShaud Williams

High School/4Plus Updates

High School

Kaleigh Bowling, Tamara Burnett-Penny, Bill Costello, Mary Ellen Cox, Anthony Coy-Gonzalez, Charisse Heine, Jeff Jones, , Melissa Lago-Jones, Angie Layman, , Laura Smith, Kim Sutton,

During the snowy weekend of December 13th, 2013, OSD Spartans Team led by Charisse Heine and Chaperone, Anthony Coy-Gonzales with four OSD students: Juli Whalen, Senior; Zachary Davenport and Gregory Rinker, Juniors; and JohnMichael Taylor, Sophomore participated in the annual Midwest Regional Academic Bowl competition at the Michigan School for the Deaf (MSD) in Flint.

Upon our arrival, OSD Spartans Team was given a tour by MSD alumni at superintendent house built by deaf alumni students. The furniture, flooring, ceiling, and wall panels all were hand-made by deaf students as part of their woodworking classes ever since the late 1800's. OSD students were in awe of its originality and were mesmerized at the historical photograph where AG Bell and Edward Miner Gallaudet were sitting positioned separately and looking sideways from one another due to their oppositional views on the future of education of deaf students. The dining room in superintendent house was unique with its walls built made of cardboard boxes embossed into prints. In addition, the movie Wrong Game was filmed there by ASL Films.

The Midwest Academic Bowl Regional held its competition at the new school building which was built two years ago on MSD campus. Fourteen schools participated in the competition and it became a homecoming event since many of students knew one another from Jr National Association of the Deaf conferences and Youth Leadership Camp. OSD Spartans Team was selected to participate in the Buff pool which eventually led them to win its Sportsmanship award. The competition lasted for two days which on both days OSD Spartans team won two out of six matches. Indiana School for the Deaf (ISD) became the Midwest Regional champions followed by Hillsdale High School in Chicago. Kansas School for the Deaf and Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf came in third and fourth places.



High School Student of the Month

November- Abby Aites

December – Jazzi Simpson

DACC

Bill Newman

During the month of December, students had the opportunity to visit the Delaware Area Career Center and see some of their hands-on labs. DACC has approximately 24 different career options available to OSD students. Most labs are half-day courses. OSD students take their academic classwork at OSD and can then attend DACC for training. This month, we had 15 OSD students visit the Career Center.

The deadline to apply to DACC for 2014-2015 is January 17th. If interested, please fill out the entire application on both sides and submit it to Bill Newman. Most DACC labs fill up quickly, so the deadline of January 17th is very important. Please also complete the three essay question on the back of the application. Their website is

www.DelawareAreaCC.org. If a student has lost their application, the website provides a pdf to print. If you have any questions, email or call Bill Newman at OSD: newman@osdb.oh.gov, 614.728.1431.

4Plus

Nancy Swisher, Bill Newman



This month's highlighted 4PLUS student is Juli Wallen. Juli is a member of the OSD Academic Bowl Team and recently competed in the Midwest Regional Playoffs at the Michigan School for the Deaf on December 12th – 15th. She also attends the Delaware Area Career Center in their Medical Office Program. Juli is employed by the Ohio School for the Deaf and works both in our Athletic Department as an assistant to the Athletic Director and also in our OSD library. She will complete her studies at DACC this year to earn a certificate. Juli was accepted at Cuyahoga Community College for Fall 2014 and wants to study ultrasound technologies.

Transition Page

Announcements

We hope you have a great thanksgiving holiday!

A.C.T Testing will be offered in **Feb 2014 for those that have already registered**. This will be the only test offered at OSD this school year. If not currently registered, Juniors/Seniors that are interested in attending college should plan on taking this test during the 2014/2015 school year.

College Goal Sunday: Free FAFSA assistance offered!

The College Goal Sunday event is scheduled for Sunday, February 9, 2014. Please mark your calendar for this date. Information regarding the locations for 2014 will be available in October. Volunteer Registration will begin in November. Student registration will open in December. If you have additional questions now regarding the FAFSA, financial aid in general or higher education in Ohio, please call 1-800-233-6734 www.ohiocollegegoalsunday.org to register and request sign language interpreter if needed.

Transition Activities at Home

Talk with your child about money. Count it, talk about planning or saving, or making purchases. Help them understand the cost of items, and how much money is needed to make a purchase.

Evening Transition Update

Larry Diley

Greetings to you from the Evening Transition Office. Early in the fall, the office was relocated to room 334 in SHS / HR building along with Student Life Offices. We provide transition services to students according to the activities as listed in their IEPs. We mainly focus on Independent Living skills such as learning to do laundry, money skills (count money, make change), budgeting, cooking, etc. We typically conduct 3 to 4 sessions daily Monday to Thursday, after school hours. The sessions last about 45 minutes. We do individual and group sessions.

Here are some of highlights of this school year so far, we have two students who cooked a meal in our Senior Apartment area. One student put too much garlic salt in the recipe and it ended up tasting bad! It was good learning experience for them. They said they want to try and do it again! We also had a student who met with me on budgeting. As we discussed the subject, the student said "I remembered the words and signs from one of the classes in school (with teacher, Mr. Jeff Jones). It was great to see the student made those great connections between a school and after school activity! It is wonderful to see how school and the student life office work together. We also did some laundry group activities. We learned the whole process: putting dirty clothes in baskets, sorting them, washing them, drying them, folding them and putting them all away. (So parents feel free to continue these lessons at home)

We have several students who have come to my office asking when they could also have some sessions. It is great to see that they are so excited to learn more and have the opportunity to experience real life experiences. I enjoy working with our students here at Ohio School for the Deaf.

College Fair- Success!

Sheri Uhrin

On November 18th Ohio School for the Deaf, in collaboration with Center for Outreach Services, hosted a college fair for Deaf and hard of hearing students throughout the state of Ohio. This fair was unique because high school ASL students who aspire to sign language/deafness related studies were also invited. In all, 71 people from 27 counties attended. Deaf and hard of hearing students were able to meet the vocational rehabilitation counselors from their respective regions, and browse booths to get information on postsecondary educational options at Columbus State Community College, Kent State University, University of Cincinnati, Delaware Area Career Center – Adult programs, and the 4 plus program at OSD. In addition to those booths, there were presentations provided by South West Collegiate Institute for the Deaf, National Technical Institute for the Deaf, and Gallaudet University. Lastly Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for the Deaf, Cathy Vickery, presented about the importance of early planning for postsecondary education. She encouraged students to work hard and advocate for the accommodations they need. C-Print is one accommodation some students prefer; Deaf Services Center provided a live demonstration of what this service can do. The fair was full of useful information and enjoyed by all. We are thankful to all the students, families, community representatives, school personnel, and rehabilitation counselors who attended and made this event possible.

Athletics Page

Athletic Director Memo

Bill Estes

The boys and girls basketball teams are enjoying a busy season! They are continuing to practice hard and prepare for the upcoming CSSD basketball tournament at Michigan School for the Deaf on January 28th-February 2nd.

In addition to the busy basketball season, we are also preparing for spring sports. This year, we will offer varsity track and middle school softball. If you have any questions regarding either sport, please contact me at estesb@osd.oh.gov.

Go Spartans!

Boys Basketball

Date	Day	Opponent	Location	Time/Score
01/08/14	Wednesday	Torah Academy	OSD	7:00 PM
01/10/14	Friday	Kentucky Classic	Danville, KY	TBA PM
01/11/14	Saturday	Kentucky Classic	Danville, KY	TBA PM
01/15/14	Wednesday	Village Academy	OSD	6:30 PM
01/16/14	Thursday	St. Rita S.D.	OSD	6:00 PM
01/23/14	Thursday	Village Academy	Powell, OH	6:30 PM
01/30/14	Thursday	C.S.S.D. at Michigan	Flint, MI	TBA PM
01/31/14	Friday	C.S.S.D. at Michigan	Flint, MI	TBA PM
2/01/14	Saturday	C.S.S.D. at Michigan	Flint, MI	TBA PM
02/04/14	Tuesday	Gilead Academy	OSD	6:30 PM
02/08/14	Saturday	Indiana S.D. JV	Homecoming	5:00 PM
02/12/14	Wednesday	Western Pennsylvania SD	Pittsburgh, PA	4:00 PM

Athletics Schedules are subject to change. Schedules listed are only through January, and the basketball season will go through February. More dates to



Tip from the Nurse

Diana Dick, Tobbi Valentine, Tammy Woodyard

The weather is getting colder and dry skin being more frequent. While increasing hydration is always a priority and helps with dry skin, some students may also need lotion and chapstick to keep their skin and lips from becoming overly dry and cracking. Please remember to provide chapstick and body lotion for your child.



Girls Basketball

Date	Day	Opponent	Location	Time/Score
01/08/14	Wednesday	Torah Academy	OSD	5:30 PM
01/10/14	Friday	Kentucky Classic	Danville, KY	TBA PM
01/11/14	Saturday	Kentucky Classic	Danville, KY	TBA PM
01/14/14	Tuesday	Columbus Horizon Science	OSD	6:00 PM
01/16/14	Thursday	St. Rita S.D.	OSD	4:30 PM
01/30/14	Thursday	C.S.S.D. at Michigan	Flint, MI	TBA PM
01/31/14	Friday	C.S.S.D. at Michigan	Flint, MI	TBA PM
02/01/14	Saturday	C.S.S.D. at Michigan	Flint, MI	TBA PM
02/06/14	Thursday	Columbus Horizon Science	OSD	5:30 PM
02/08/14	Saturday	Indiana S.D. JV	Homecoming	3:00 PM
02/12/14	Wednesday	Western Pennsylvania	Pittsburgh, PA	2:30 PM

Specialists

Bobbi Colatruglio, Leanna Goss, Susan McTyiere, Mitzi Stephens, Miranda Walker

PLEASE SEE ARTICLE ON NEXT PAGE

Library

Nancy Boone, Donna Henderson

See middle school Battle of the Books information

Reading Specialist

Angela Smith

Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A" reads 20 minutes each day	Student "B" reads 5 minutes each day	Student "C" reads 1 minute each day
3600 minutes in a school year	900 minutes in a school year	180 minutes in a school year

1,800,000 words



90th percentile

282,000 words



50th percentile

8,000 words



10th percentile

By the end of 6th grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

Math Specialist

Melissa Lago Jones

Top Ten Fun Ways to Help Kids Learn Their Math Facts

- 1. Skip count.** Count by fives, sevens, etc. as you pass time or play games. For instance, count by threes as you climb a flight of stairs or have kids brush their teeth until they get to 100 by counting in their heads by fours.
- 2. Play math War.** The game is played like traditional War but players turn up two cards at a time and either add or multiply the numbers on them to determine their number. The highest number takes the cards. In the event of a tie, turn over three and add or multiply all of them to see who wins.
- 3. Have the kids make up concentration cards.** Give them index cards and pens, and have them make sets of cards (one with the equation, one with the answer). Lay the cards face down and take turns trying to find matches, concentration style.
- 4. Get a math fact poster and temporarily tape it up somewhere the kids will look at it often** (such as by the dinner table or in the bathroom).
- 5. Give them multiplication charts to color.** This is a great visual, artistic way to reinforce the number patterns in the times tables.
- 6. Play chocolate chip math.** Get a pile of chocolate chips and ask the kids random math questions. Right answers get chocolate chips. Wrong answers get to try again the next round.
- 7. Play online math games.** www.multiplication.com and www.xtramath.com
- 8. Use real world associations.** It's hard to remember endless streams of meaningless numbers, but once the numbers have meaning they're pretty easy. For instance, most kids pretty easily learn multiples of 25 because of using quarters and money (four quarters is a dollar, or $4 \times 25 = 100$, and 16 quarters is four stacks of four quarters or \$4, or $4 \times 16 = 400$). Show kids that calendars are multiples of sevens because of seven days in a week (one week is 7 days, two weeks is 14 days, and so on).
- 9. Teach them how to do Kakuru puzzles.** These fun puzzles are similar to Sudoku puzzles, but they require addition to solve them. Sometimes called "cross sums," they are completed in a similar way to crossword puzzles, but with numbers instead of letters. Each line uses the numbers 1-9 with no repeats, going across and down. You can find out more about them and find free printable Kakuru puzzles. You can also pick up books of Kakuru puzzles at many dollar stores.
- 10. Use apps.** There are some really fun math apps for the iPod, iPad, iPhone and for android devices, and many of them are free or very low cost. Remember that some kids naturally memorize math facts much easier than others. Kids who are right brained learners are often "late" in memorizing math facts but are capable of doing very advanced math despite it. Don't obsess over the fact that your kids don't know it all by heart, and don't wait to get into higher math until they know it all by heart. Simply provide a calculator, a printable chart or some other aid to help them with the numbers in the meantime.

Have fun with numbers, and the memorization will come!

<http://www.examiner.com/article/22-fun-ways-to-help-kids-learn-their-math-facts-1>

Specialists

Bobbi Colatruglio, Leanna Goss, Susan McTyiere, Mitzi Stephens, Miranda Walker

Here are a few strategies for developing your child's listening skills as you communicate with your child:

1. Have your child wear his/her hearing aids/cochlear implants all day everyday.
2. In the beginning, make sure you are close to the microphone of your child's device when speaking. As your child's skills develop, increase the distance between you, the speaker, and the microphone. The farther away you are from the microphone, the softer the sound becomes.
3. When speaking to your child, use a normal voice quality, with normal rate, rhythm and level of intensity. Shouting or speaking loudly does not make the speech easier to hear and can make the speech less clear.
4. Start off by making sure that you have a quiet environment. If it is too noisy, your child will have difficulty accessing the sound. As his/her skills develop, he/she can work on listening in a noisier environment.
5. Cue your child into listening. For younger children, point to your ear and say "Listen." or "I heard that." Gesturing can be dropped for the older child. You can ask him/her, "Did you hear that?"
6. Start by using phrases and simple sentence with your child instead of only single words. Language's basic structure is a sentence and using short phrases and simple sentences will give your child more auditory information to help him/her process and understand the communication.

Please make sure to look at the Harris Communications flyer attached to this newsletter. They provide technology for individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. They have provided us a 20% discount on products. OSD encourages all high school and 4Plus students to have their own alarm clock. Great place to start!



February

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thurs.	Friday
3	4	5 Elem. to COSI	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17 No School	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27 Elem. Multicultural Night 5:30- 700	28

Specials

Nancy Boone, Kaleigh Bowling, Bill Costello, Anthony Coy-Gonzalez, Bill Estes, Angie Layman, Nona Pierce,

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A physical education evaluation will be included as an indicator on the Local Report Card this year. One part of the law will measure student success in meeting the benchmarks contained in the Physical Education Academic Content Standards. Students need to be engaged in regular physical activity inside and outside of school to meet national recommendations for daily physical activity.

Please help your child recall the amount of physical activity completed over the course of a seven-day week (including weekends).

A copy of the physical activity pyramid worksheet is included in this newsletter.

Students will refer to the pyramid to identify possible physical activities. The tasks for this week-long evaluation are included on the bottom of the worksheet provided.

If you have any questions, please email Angie Layman at layman@osd.oh.gov.

WORKSHEET ATTACHED



REMINDER

2012-2013 yearbooks are available for purchase for \$28. Please see Nancy Boone