

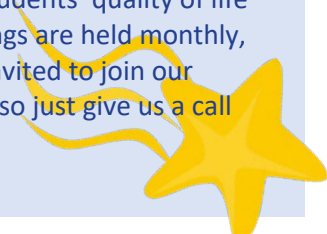
The Wave

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS
OCTOBER 2021



SIT IS IN SESSION

OSA recently created the School Improvement Team, which we aptly call SIT, because we all come together around one large community table, as one united team, to brainstorm, plan, and then implement ways to effect positive change in our school. More specifically, SIT is concentrated on joint efforts by staff and students to (1) enhance academic achievement, (2) enrich our school climate and culture, and (3) expand community involvement and immersion. The ultimate goal is to improve our students' quality of life both inside and outside of OSA. Meetings are held monthly, and all parents and district personnel are warmly invited to join our "SIT-ins." Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 16, so just give us a call at the school's main number if you'd like to join us. We'd love to have you!



MONTHLY HAPPENINGS

There were lots of new developments and fun annual celebrations on campus this month! Here's a look at some of them.

Opening of Our School Woodshop



OSA's Annual
Halloween
Door/Corkboard
Decorating Contest



Work with your class to decorate your classroom door/corkboard with a Halloween theme! On Halloween, all doors/corkboards will be voted on by Dragons, CEOs, Administrators, and nonclassroom staff.

Voting Categories Include:
Most Creative Most Creepy/Scary Most Funny and ...

BEST OVERALL DOOR/CORKBOARD!

The Grand Prize winners for BEST DOOR/CORKBOARD will receive a classroom Pizza & Ice Cream Sundae Party!
*One Grand Prize per floor

All classrooms have a \$70 budget for decorating supplies. Classroom time can be used for planning/creating door decorations, but decorations can NOT be placed on doors/corkboards until Thursday 10/28, starting at 12 p.m.

Voting will take place on Friday, 10/29

Halloween Door Decorating Contest



Launch of Dragon of the Month Award

School-wide Spirit Week Celebration

Ocean State Academy
Spirit Week
10/25-10/29

Monday 10/25 Color Day <small>Elementary: Blue Middle: White High School: Green</small>	Tuesday 10/26 Twin Tuesday <small>March with someone else</small>	Wednesday 10/27 Wacky Wednesday <small>Mismatch clothes, silly hairstyles, etc.</small>	Thursday 10/28 Team Sports Thursday <small>Favorite team sports gear</small>	Friday 10/29 Character Day <small>Favorite character clothes, T-shirts, etc.</small>
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Please keep all outfits school appropriate!

ACADEMIC CORNER: OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

What will you see walking around Ocean State Academy early this fall? Walking through classrooms, you'll see students diligently working on assignments tailored to their personalized learning goals. You'll see our teachers adjusting their lesson plans after digging into the new data gathered from October's Renaissance Star Assessment window. Classrooms are in friendly competition to celebrate the rooms with the most growth as each student strives to show improvement over their previous score. And on Tuesdays and Thursdays, precisely at 11:00 a.m., the entire school "drops everything to read," with everyone choosing their own book, whether an old favorite or a new title.

In the hallways, learning artifacts are proudly displayed on the unique bulletin boards created by classrooms. Our elementary students eagerly wrote and illustrated their own books. Each author had the opportunity to read their book or have a teacher read it during a small socially distanced event. Additionally, students engaged in Foundations lessons, guided leveled reading, and math problem solving. There were even students creating surveys to learn about data collection and graphing.



Our middle school scholars learned to use the guided notes from Edgenuity to support their comprehension of the lessons being presented. They used manipulatives to show their problem-solving abilities. Students were excited to jump into the text *Tangerine* by Edward Bloor, which led to discussions about their predictions and thought-provoking questions.



Our high school learners engaged in discussions on topics from CNN 10 representing their different perspectives. They also used clay, paper, boxes, and other materials to make hands-on replicas aligned with their learning in history. Students have created posters to showcase their research. Learners taking anatomy and physiology classes demonstrated their creativity with their detailed, labeled illustrations.



Ocean State Academy is proud of all our students, teachers, and staff who are embracing the growth mindset mentality. Students continue to use IXL, Reading Plus, and MyPath to fill in gaps in their learning from lessons they may have missed in the past. We are looking forward to the growth we will see this quarter, as well as the leaps students will make this year both academically and socially.

Two New Social Work Partnerships

This month, Ocean State Academy piloted two new programs through collaborations with the local agencies Day One and Foster Forward. Both partnerships offer students educational opportunities geared toward success in the community. The first, Word on the Street, provided through Day One, is comprised of a group for secondary female students focused on education in the areas of community safety and self-empowerment. The second program, Works Wonders, provided through Foster Forward, provides preliminary job skills training to select secondary students. Training includes creating a résumé, applying for jobs, and presenting oneself appropriately in the workplace. Following the training, participants will be provided with a multitude of vocational opportunities that can extend through the age of 26. The social work team is very excited to be partnering with these organizations to broaden the opportunities available to our students. Icing on the cake this month is welcoming the newest addition to our social work team, Ms. Garcia.



Nurturing a Love of Learning

Reading interventions are underway at OSA! We are taking a "back to the basics" approach with Tier 2 and Tier 3 students, starting with phonological awareness. Our goal is to teach students to be proficient in recognizing the sounds in a word, then we teach them to identify the letters that make the sounds in words. We are working to help students effortlessly recognize words so they can focus on comprehending the text they are reading. One strategy we like to use to develop phonological awareness in students is a strategy called "Say it, Move it, Spell it, Write it!" This technique allows students to hear the word, say the word, move chips for each sound in the word, then replace sounds with letters, and finally write the word. As students become more confident in their ability to read, we enthusiastically promote their blossoming love of learning.

