From Principal Sermak:

We look forward to beginning the 2019-20 school year with your student on Monday, August 26.

**Important Dates in August and September:**

- **August 21**: Meet the Chiefs, 7:00 p.m.
- **August 22**: Student Computer Pick-Up, OHS Library (bring ID), 2-6 p.m.
- **August 22**: College Application Presentation, 6:00 p.m.
- **August 23**: Student Computer Pick-Up, OHS Library (bring ID), noon-4 p.m.
- **August 26**: FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (½ day)
- **August 27**: Open House, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
  Yearbook Pick-Up (outside the athletic office)
- **August 30**: NO SCHOOL

- **September 2**: NO SCHOOL
- **September 11**: Parent Group Meeting, 9:00 a.m., Guidance Classroom (2nd Floor)
- **September 16**: Homecoming Week
- **September 21**: Homecoming Dance, 8:30-11:30 p.m.

**Back to School:**

All back to school information can be found on the OHS website: Please visit Okemos High School > Parents & Students> and click on the relevant grade level (ie: “Freshmen Class of 2023”).

**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL** (for all students) – Monday, **August 26, 2019** (Half day)

- Bus schedules are posted on the Okemos Public Schools website, [www.okemosk12.net](http://www.okemosk12.net)> Departments> Transportation>Bus Schedule.
- Please watch the “OHS Parking and Drop-Off Procedures Video” (located on the OHS website> Parents & Students>“Your student’s graduation year- Senior Class of 2020”).
- Student drop-off and parking is located in the lot off of Hulett Road; please adhere to the traffic cones.
- Zero hour students report to class at 6:50 a.m.
- All students should report to their first hour class at 7:45 a.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Day Bell Schedule:</th>
<th>Half Day Schedule, 8/26/19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zero Hour</td>
<td>6:50 - 7:40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 1</td>
<td>7:45 - 8:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 2</td>
<td>8:22 - 8:47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 3</td>
<td>8:54 - 9:19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 4</td>
<td>9:26 - 9:51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 5</td>
<td>9:58 - 10:23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 6</td>
<td>10:30 - 10:55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Open House for Parents/Guardians** - Tuesday, August 27, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- Parent/guardians will follow their student’s schedule.
- If your student has a zero hour, the program begins at 5:45 p.m.
- You can access your student’s schedule on PowerSchool prior to the event or you can pick up a hard copy at the high school beginning at 5:30 p.m.

**Home-to-School Communication** - Communication between home and school is critical to your student’s success. In an effort to ensure you have up to date and accurate information, we will be communicating through a variety of mediums throughout the year. As accurate email addresses are crucial to you receiving timely communication from the school, please be sure to notify us if your email address changes throughout the school year. Forms of communication include, but are not limited to:
- Weekly “News & Notes” (emailed on Sundays)
- Weekly FLEX video announcements (viewed by students on Thursdays)
- Updates to the OHS website (www.okemosk12.net)
- Postings of key events on the message board located on Jolly Road
- Principal’s Reports at the Parent Group Meetings
- Parent-Teacher Conferences, November and March
- PowerSchool (on-line tracking of student academic progress)
- [Parent Student Handbook](link on OHS website)

- Christine Sermak, Principal, christine.sermak@okemosk12.net, 706-4902
  Twitter: @OkemosPrincipal
- Andrea Hallead, Assistant Principal (Last Names A-L), andrea.hallead@okemosk12.net, 706-4903
- Lamanzer Williams, Assistant Principal (Last Names M-Z), lamanzer.williams@okemosk12.net, 706-4905
- Brian Fuller, Athletic Director, brian.fuller@okemosk12.net, 706-4931
  Twitter: @OkemosHSAD

I hope you have a wonderful first week of school.
*Christine Sermak*
Proud Principal of Okemos High School

**School News:**

**Student devices** - Students will be required to **show picture I.D. or other form of I.D.** when picking up their device.
- *Returning students* can pick up devices in the library on Thursday, August 22 (2:00 pm - 6:00 pm or Friday, August 23
- *New students* device distribution will take place on Thursday, September 6 during Flex in the OHS Kiva.

**Road Map to Success Presentation** - Tuesday, **August 27** during the school day. Administration will review key aspects of the handbook and opportunities available to students in preparation for a successful year.
2018-2019 Textbook Fees & Unreturned Books – Please stop by the main office on the first day of school to pay any textbook fees or return books from last year. Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

3rd Annual Theatre Dept. Ice Cream Social | Thursday, Aug. 29 | 6:00 pm in the Commons:
All are invited, STUDENTS & PARENTS, to find out what the OHS Theatre Department is up to for the 2019-2020 Season. Meet the directors, find out about auditions for the fall play, learn how to get involved with the stage crew, meet other Theatre Booster parents, and enjoy a delicious bowl of ice cream! Can’t wait to see you there.

Summer Spanish Immersion Trip: Okemos High School will offer an 11-day language immersion program in Quito, Ecuador in June 2020. This trip is open to all Spanish students, grades 9-12, and is a wonderful opportunity to sharpen Spanish skills and learn first-hand about Ecuadorian culture. Space is limited, so please contact Sra. Sanders if you would like to register. Come to the information meeting in September (date TBA) at OHS to find out more, or contact Señora Sanders if you have any questions. email: Karen.sanders@okemos12.net

Seniors:

Senior Pictures: for the class of 2020 are due Monday November 4th. Please see website for all requirements before submitting and setting up appointments. Yearbookokemos.weebly.com
Please send all senior pictures to seniorpictures@okemos12.net

Counseling News:

PSAT/NMSQT: Each year between eight and fifteen Okemos High School juniors are honored as National Merit Semi-finalists by earning a qualifying score on the PSAT/NMSQT. National Merit Semi-finalists tend to be students who have taken advanced courses and have a strong academic profile. Historically, many juniors and some sophomores have taken the PSAT/NMSQT for practice with standardized testing. All sophomores will take the PSAT10 in the spring of 2020 and therefore will not participate in the PSAT/NMSQT this October.

While any junior is welcome to take the PSAT/NMSQT, students who are seeking to do so for practice are better served by utilizing the free, comprehensive and personalized SAT preparation resources made available by Khan Academy. Visit https://www.khanacademy.org/sat for more information.

For the 2019 PSAT/NMSQT, students will be registering online. This registration will take a few minutes and can be completed from any computer with internet access.

Online exam registration will begin on Monday, August 19, 2019 at 7:00 AM. Regular registration begins August 19, 2019 and ends September 18, 2019. The cost for the PSAT/NMSQT is $25.00. Students who register after September 18, 2019 through October 14, 2019 will be charged a $10.00 late fee.

In order to register, students should visit www.TotalRegistration.net/PSAT/232850. To complete registration, students must answer all of the required questions. Registration is not complete until students have printed the pdf of the confirmation page that is provided at the end.
Okemos High School is excited to offer families the convenience of paying exam fees online at the time of registration. Please be sure to have a debit or credit card available before beginning registration. Paying online is a great way to make sure that payment has been made.

Here are the important dates for the registration process:

- Monday, August 19, 2019 at 7:00 AM - Registration Begins
- Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 11:59 PM - Regular Registration Ends
- Thursday, September 19, 2019 - Monday, October 14 - Late Registration Period
  - Because tests must be ordered in advance, test administration is only guaranteed to those students who submit their registration form and payment by 9-18-19. After September 18, registration will only be open until space is full.
- Thursday, October 17, 2019 - Students who signed up during Late Registration must attend FLEX in the counseling office.
- Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 2:35 PM - Registrations that have not been paid for will be canceled.

Please contact Carrie Inglis at carrie.inglis@okemosk12.net or 517-706-4923, if you have questions or require financial assistance.

**Athletic News:**

**Online Payments link for season passes and participation fees:**
https://www.okemosk12.net/Page/9024

**Home Games Week of 8/26-**
8/26- JV A/Varsity Soccer vs Traverse City West 5PM
8/28 - JV B Soccer vs Davison 5PM
8/29- Varsity Tennis vs Bloomfield Hills 4:30PM, Varsity Football vs Mason 7PM