From Principal Sermak:

Important Dates:

January 29      Early Release, 12:35pm dismissal
February 13     Touch of Class charity luncheon (tickets on sale now- see below)
                 "Surviving (and Maybe Even Liking) Your Teens" at Chippewa, 7pm
March 9         Spring Sports begin (be sure you have a current physical on file)

Touch of Class

The 21st annual student-organized Touch of Class charity luncheon will be held on

Thursday, February 13 during an all-school lunch.

All proceeds will be donated to Okemos Cares (assisting OHS students in financial need).

Last year, we raised over $4,000 and sold over 550 tickets!

Tickets will be sold during the lunch hours January 29 until February 11 for $7 each.

You can also use a credit card and purchase them online:

https://okemosk12.revtrak.net/high-school/touch-of-class-gr/

This year’s luncheon is sponsored by Olive Garden, Pepsi and Tasty Twist.

If you have questions, ask Mrs. Sermak, Eli Allaire, Maddie Sermak,

Tommy Balesky or Lilia Pincheira.

If a student has a financial need and would like to attend, please contact a counselor.

School News:

Parents Involved in Research: The Science Research Seminar class is looking for speakers for semester 2 who would like to share their work and experiences with them. This class revolves around students learning about and performing the research process usually in science or medicine, but it can be any subject area. The class is first hour, approximately 7:45-8:42 AM. If you are interested in being a guest speaker in our class please contact Denise Facione: denise.facione@okemosk12.net.

Yearbook Info: Yearbook prices go up after January 31st. Order now to save money! See our website on how to order. yearbookokemos.weebly.com

Senior Tribute Ad Information: Please click on the link to place a senior tribute ad:

https://www.jostens.com/apps/jcom/router.mvc?affiliateld=1063655

The last day to order is Monday, March 9th at midnight.
**Shoe Drive:** Okemos High School will be hosting a Shoe Drive for Souls4Soles from January 27th to February 10th. When you donate your gently used shoes of any kind (sneakers, sandals, etc), Soles4Souls will distribute them to children and adults living in poverty in 127 countries around the world. Donations should be placed in the box in the Main Office. Thank you for contributing to this great cause! Event is being organized by student council.

**Counseling News:**

**Scholarships:** Seniors - take time to come into the Counseling Office to browse through the scholarship binder. We have the Tyler Oakley Scholarship available (due 4/22/20), the “Heart of a Mom” Honorarium (due 5/1/20), the Never Back Down Scholarship (for lacrosse athletes due 5/1/20) and the Okemos Masonic Scholarship (due 3/2/20).

**The Early College @ LCC Informational Session:** Sophomores - Interested sophomores are invited to an informational session about The Early College in the Kiva during Flex on Thursday, February 13. Parents interested in learning more about the Early College can find more information and the schedule of evening presentations at https://www.lcc.edu/community/college-credit-in-hs/earlycollege/. Only sophomores are eligible to apply to this program. See Mrs. Akers for more information.

**Athletic News:**

**Athletic Calendar:** https://www.okemosk12.net/domain/3116

**Home Athletic Contests - Week of January 27, 2020**

**Tuesday 1/28**
FR/JV Girls Basketball vs Saginaw Heritage 4:00/5:30
VAR Girls Basketball vs Detroit Edison 7:00

**Thursday 1/30**
FR/JV Girls Basketball vs Grand Ledge 5:30/7:00

**Friday 1/31**
VAR Girls & Boys Basketball vs Grand Ledge 6:00/7:30
Hockey vs Eastside Stars 8:30 @ Suburban Ice Arena

**Winter Sports team schedule posters with pictures of seniors are available in the athletic office.**

**Spring Sports Seniors**- We will take a picture in uniform in the next few weeks to replicate this for Spring Sports seasons.
Spring Sports season begins on March 9th, but only for those athletes that have a completed physical on file in the athletic office. Please take care of this so you don't miss out on the start of your season! Spring Sports down time is from March 1-8, no organized team activities are allowed during the down time.

Booster’s Club: The Booster Club is moving forward with the Banner Project. We will be selling sponsors for each sport’s banner at a cost of $300 with $100 going to the sport of the sponsor’s choice. If interested in sponsoring or providing a business who might be interested, please contact Kari Ann Brown at kariann1963@gmail.com. We will have our next meeting Monday February 24, 2020 at Henry’s Place at 7:30. Please join us!

District News:

Headlee Restoration for Special Education

On March 10, 2020, Ingham Intermediate School District will have a question on the ballot regarding a Headlee Restoration for Special Education. In the Ingham ISD service area, which includes our district, the Special Education Millage has eroded .2438 mill since 1988. As a result, Ingham ISD has been collecting less revenue than originally approved by taxpayers for special education students.

This restoration would cost homeowners with a market value of $125,000 or a taxable value of $62,500, $15.24 per year or $1.27 per month. If approved, this restoration would generate approximately $2,300,000 for students with special education needs. If not approved, it will not reduce your home property taxes.

Every registered voter who lives in our school district, whether a property owner, or not, is eligible to vote. For more information, to review frequently asked questions or view the ballot language, please visit the Ingham ISD website at www.inghamisd.org.

Board of Education Meeting Summary- Please click on the link for a summary of our latest meeting of the Okemos Board of Education: https://www.okemosk12.net/Page/520
Chippewa Parent Group invites you to mark your calendar for our evening speaker meeting on February 13th at 7pm in the Large Group Meeting Room. Jana Aupperlee will present "Surviving (and Maybe Even Liking) Your Tweens and Teens." Jana is a nationally certified School Psychologist, a Licensed Psychologist in the state of Michigan, the Training Co-Director of the Mid-Michigan Psychology Internship Consortium and the Director of the Ph.D. program in School Psychology at MSU. Her research interests include cognitive-behavioral therapy for children and adolescents with anxiety, depression and challenging behaviors and helping parents/guardians to promote mental health at home. All are welcome! Please see our flyer below and/or our Facebook page for event details.
Okemos High School is full of talented students, from actors to filmmakers, athletes to artists, dancers to scriptwriters, and more. The OHS Talent Show, Okemos Has Got Talent: Season 2, is the place where the entire student body can learn how to put up a production, showcase their abilities, and work with a wide cross section of the OHS community. It also happens to be the same night as the annual Pancake Dinner, so audiences get some comfort food before the show and the Department raises funds to support future theatrical productions. It’s a win-win!

Okemos High School’s production of Okemos Has Got Talent: Season 2, preceded by the Pancake Dinner, runs February 8 only. Dinner costs $5 and runs 5:45p-6:45p. The show starts at 7:00pm and also costs $5. Tickets may be purchased at the door on the night of the show or at www.okemosplayhouse.com.

Okemos Has Got Talent: Season 2 is directed by Chad DeKatch, supported by a 25-member student production team, and boasts a cast and crew of over 50. For more information and other inquiries contact Chad at chad.dekatch@okemos12.net.

Okemos Has Got Talent: Season 2 & Pancake Dinner Schedule:
5:45 pm - February 8 - Pancake Dinner
7:00 pm - February 8 - Performance

Okemos Has Got Talent: Season 2 & Pancake Dinner Tickets:
Pancake Dinner tickets - $5
Show tickets - $5
Both - $10

Tickets are general seating and can be purchased at our website (www.okemosplayhouse.com) and also available at the door (OHS Auditorium, 2800 Jolly Road, Okemos, MI 48864).
DONATE WHILE YOU DINE!

Visit Culver’s of Okemos (3440 Okemos Rd) on
Tuesday, January 28th 5-10 pm
and we will donate a percentage of sales to
Okemos HS Boys Swim and Dive

Come on in to your local Culver’s restaurant:
Culver’s of Okemos (Okemos Rd)
3440 Okemos Rd, Okemos, MI 48864
(517) 593-0560