

OREGON-DAVIS

Schoolhouse

Publication of Oregon-Davis School Corporation FALL 2014

50 Years of Excellence



Superintendent's Message

The 2014-15 school year is in full swing! Oregon-Davis School Corporation has been diligent about continually examining our systems, structures, practices and policies to continuously improve as a district. We believe being reflective in our practices will in turn teach our students to



be reflective in their lives as well. A large part of preparing students for life outside our buildings is building their character while helping them master their academics. As we have gone through the data of our students, an area of concern is reading skills. The only truly differentiated literacy solution that meets all students at their precise reading level, we know we'll see dramatic student achievement over

this school year. Achieve3000 has been proven to double reading gains and significantly advance students on the path to college and career readiness. We anticipate 2014-15 to be a year of outstanding success for all our students. We are continuing to examine our curriculum and making plans for the 2015-16 school year with a variety of course selections that interest and challenge our students.

As the superintendent, I am excited about the positive environment that surrounds our buildings. We are a small school with big dreams. Providing an education that is diverse, differentiated and personal while giving students the structure and support necessary for success is what sets Oregon-Davis apart from other corporations.

This year, we are focusing even more on the quality of education provided in every building. With new college and career graduation requirements, our educational standards of excellence must be raised to meet the needs of our students. Our staff is continually attending the necessary training that will guide our students to great accomplishments in and out of the classroom as they continue to explore their future paths.

I am excited about the wonderful opportunities and changes that are happening around Oregon-Davis, which will allow us to continue to keep the bar high. Please continue to read through this "Schoolhouse" issue to learn more about these great opportunities for our students.

-Greg Briles, Superintendent, Oregon-Davis School Corporation



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Jr.-Sr. High School

Student of the Month Program Motivates Positivity

The 2014-15 school year brings a new Student of the Month program to Oregon-Davis Jr.-Sr. High School. The program will acknowledge students for exhibiting behaviors that align with the school's core tenants: Trust, Respect and Responsibility. Students may be nominated by any teacher and will be recognized with a certificate and small gifts. There will also be a drawing for a larger gift such as a lunch line cut card, athletic passes and other types of gift certificates.

Nominations are made by the last Thursday of the month. Students will be recognized the following Monday. Student pictures will be posted on the website as well as on a bulletin board in the building. In addition to student nominations, there will also be a Teacher of the Month.

The goal of implementing the Student of the Month program is to work toward building a strong, positive and supportive culture at OD Jr.-Sr. High.

When students at Oregon-Davis Elementary meet their Accelerated Reading goals, they are rewarded with monthly prizes. It pays to read at OD Elementary!



Oregon-Davis Jr.-Sr. High Welcomes New Teachers

Joel Johnston graduated from Bethel College in 2010. He is the oldest of four siblings and really values family and the small town feel. He loves sports, citing golf and basketball as his favorites. He also tries to work out four to five times a week. Joel loves to travel, and southern California is his favorite vacation destination. He pursued physical education because he enjoys working with young people. He loves fitness, sports and being active. Joel hopes to spread that passion for fitness to Oregon-Davis students.

Amy Budka is excited for her first year at Oregon-Davis schools. She previously taught middle school for nine years in Knox, Ind. She graduated from Purdue University in 1998. Although she holds certification from IUSB and a master's in English from National University in California, her heart belongs to the Boilers. Amy lives in Plymouth with her husband Waylon, her two sons, three cats and three ducks.

Bianca Ash has joined the Special Education department at OD. Bianca graduated from IUSB in 2002 and is beginning her 12th year of teaching. She previously taught two years for Culver Community Schools, eight years with the JESSE cooperative at Culver Community and one year for Merrillville Community Schools through the NISEC cooperative. She has lived in the community for 13 years and is excited to now be working in the community as well. She is married and has three kids. Bianca's husband, Jim Ash, also teaches in OD, and all three of their children attend school here.

John Phillips grew up on a farm in Lowell and attended Lowell High School. He went to St. Joseph's College. John taught in Illinois at Crete-Monee and Donovan high schools. While at Donovan, he coached the junior high and high school baseball teams, with the junior high team going to the state finals twice. He enjoys watching sports, holding season tickets for the Pacers. John likes to travel to baseball stadiums and has been to 23 different stadiums.

Angie Radtke has been teaching middle school language arts for 10 years. She received her bachelor's in English Education in 2004 from Indiana University, South Bend. In 2011, she earned her master's in Educational Leadership from Ball State University. She joins her husband, Wes, who teaches sixth grade at Oregon-Davis Elementary, and her four daughters who are also Bobcats. She is also a 4-H leader and holds a seat on the 4-H Council. Her hobbies include reading, attending church with her family, baking, attending her daughters' activities and cheering for the Bobcats.

Ryan Julian was born and raised in Chicago, Ill. He graduated from prestigious Mount Carmel High School located on the south side of the city. Ryan then attended Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, on a partial baseball scholarship where he majored in Secondary Education with an endorsement in Social Studies. After graduating in 2011, Ryan relocated to central Indiana and started coaching for Oregon-Davis baseball as an assistant. He has been a part of the baseball program for three years and is currently the head varsity coach. He has joined the staff teaching U.S. History, World History and Psychology.

Scot Hollenbaugh joins the staff at OD after a long teaching career at John Glenn. He was born in Gary and has one brother and one sister, both older. In 1974, he moved to Winamac where he graduated from Winamac Community High School. He attended Indiana State University from 1977-81, and began his teaching career in 1981. He is married with sons attending college. Scot and his family currently reside in Bremen.

Elementary School

OD Elementary Rewards Students for Reading

Oregon-Davis Elementary participates in the Accelerated Reader (AR) Program. This effective program allows students to read books at home and at school and take AR tests to earn points. The points on a test will indicate whether a child passed the test or not. OD Elementary has set goals for each grade level. The numbers are as follows:

Grade	Number of Books
Kindergarten	10
1st Grade.....	10
2nd Grade.....	10
3rd Grade.....	3
4th Grade.....	4
5th Grade.....	10
6th Grade.....	12

When students meet their goals, they are rewarded with monthly prizes. Readers who meet their goals in November will earn a chance to decorate cookies and drink hot chocolate. Readers in December will earn snow cones and a viewing of the movie "Frozen." As the year goes on, students can earn popcorn and a movie, a Dr. Seuss Celebration, an egg fest and an ice cream sundae. It certainly pays to read at OD Elementary!

Field Trips take Learning to a New Level

Field trips extend learning in the classroom with real life experiences. Students at Oregon-Davis Elementary get the opportunity to participate in at least one field trip per year. Each trip directly relates to what is being learned in the classroom. Field trips also give students experiences that they may otherwise never get.

This year, students will be participating in many exciting trips, which will extend the classroom and create memories to last a lifetime. Students in first and second grade will be going to Guse's Pumpkin Patch. Their teachers will integrate reading, writing and science into the field trip. Third graders attended Fair Oaks Dairy on Oct. 21. Students visited the dairy and the swine farm. This trip was made possible by the Farm Bureau's donation of \$500.

Fourth graders attended the Trail of Courage Festival in Rochester in September. Students were able to learn about Indiana history during this trip. Students agreed that learning history was much easier when it is right in front of you.

The fifth graders are saving up for their special field trip. A quarter a day is being put away and kept track of in a ledger to teach the importance of saving. This spring, the money will be put toward a trip to Shed Aquarium in Chicago.

The elementary field trips become more exciting as students get older. Sixth graders took their annual trip to Camp Eberhart. This was an overnight field trip that was held at the YMCA Camp in Three Oaks, Mich. Students participated in team building activities in addition to learning about compass skills, archery and canoeing. They also participated in a steeple chase, a night hike and learned outdoor survival skills.

Field trips make learning come alive. They increase student motivation and engagement. OD Elementary is thankful that field trips are a part of their curriculum.



You're Invited!

The Oregon-Davis School Board meets on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Administration Building, 5998 North 750 East, Hamlet, IN. You are invited to attend these meetings.

Board of Education

- Chris LawrencePresident
- Andrea McIntoshVice President
- Kurt HayesSecretary
- Shirley BudkaMember
- Lee Nagai.....Member

Feedback Is Welcome

We welcome our readers' letters, comments and critique. Write to us at Editor, Oregon-Davis Schoolhouse, Oregon-Davis School Corporation, 5998 N. 750 E., Hamlet, IN 46532, or call (574) 867-2111.

Contact Us

- Jr.-Sr. High School(574) 867-4561
- Elementary(574) 867-2711
- Administration Office(574) 867-2111
- Fax(574) 867-8191

Our Principals

- Mr. Timothy Pletcher...Jr.-Sr. High School Principal
- Mr. William BennettElementary Principal

Our Website

<http://www.od.k12.in.us>

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This school year brings a new Student of the Month program to Oregon-Davis Jr.-Sr. High School, where students are nominated and recognized by their teachers for exhibiting positive behaviors.



This year, students will be participating in many exciting field trips, which will extend the classroom and create memories to last a lifetime. Each elementary grade has a special field trip to look forward to, which makes learning come alive.

All School Calendar, 2014-15

Nov. 26-28.....	Thanksgiving Vacation (no school)
Dec. 18-19.....	Semester 1 Exams
Dec. 19.....	Second Nine Weeks Grading Period (44 days)
Dec. 22-Jan. 2.....	Christmas Vacation (no school)
Jan. 5.....	Teachers Records Day (no school/PMD)
Jan. 6.....	Second Semester Begins
Jan. 30.....	Progress Reports Sent Home
Feb. 16.....	Winter Vacation (no school/PMD)
March 6.....	Third Nine Weeks Grading Period (43 days)
March 23-27.....	Spring Vacation (no school)
April 3.....	Good Friday (no school)
April 10.....	Progress Reports Sent Home
May 1.....	No School (PMD)
May 25.....	Memorial Day (no school)
May 26-27.....	Semester II Exams
May 28.....	Fourth Nine Weeks Grading Period (51 days)
May 28.....	Last Student Day
May 29.....	Teachers Record Day (no school)
June 5.....	Commencement (6:30 p.m.)