

# OREGON-DAVIS

## *Schoolhouse*

Publication of Oregon-Davis School Corporation SUMMER 2015

## Redesigning Education in Starke County



Check out  
our new Website  
[odschools.org](http://odschools.org)

### What's Inside:

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Begins STEM Education Program

Students to Participate in  
Yellow Stone Trail Fest

## Superintendent's Message

Warmer weather is here again! The signs are all around us, from the green of the leaves to the bright colors of flowers planted by a diligent gardener. Slowly but surely the world has changed around us. Our students are also busy during the year, but especially during the summer,



striving to improve both their academic and extracurricular talents. Excellence is more art than science, a gradual sculpting over time. Like anything worth doing, academic success requires effort and continual practice. This noble task requires patience, practice and support from teachers, coaches and administrators. That's what we're all about.

I'm pleased to be the superintendent of this exceptional school corporation. Our students and parents are outstanding. Our students succeed in both the classroom and in extracurriculars. Our outstanding staff goes above and beyond to reach every student they encounter. We're proud of our success, yet we continue to work hard to make Oregon-Davis School Corporation one of the best school districts in Indiana.

In this issue, you will read about many of the things that make our school corporation great. We are focused on student success. Our elementary school is beginning a STEM education program and our students involved in music and art are putting their talents on display in the Yellow Stone Trail Fest.

Educating the children and young people of our community is a group effort of our schools, parents and community. Each year, numerous businesses, service organizations, employees, parents and individual patrons provide support in so many ways for our students and their activities. The strong community support is greatly appreciated and helps promote student success in many different areas.

Let's make this year at Oregon-Davis School Corporation a great one!

*-Greg Briles, Superintendent, Oregon-Davis School Corporation*

## Opening School

### Registration

Registration can be completed online or by appointment from July 27 - July 31. The office is open from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. More information will be available on the banner of the school website. Parents will need a username and password that will be sent out before the end of the school year, and also can be located on the bottom of your child's report card.

### Open House

August 3, 2015..... 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

### School Hours

Jr/Sr High ..... 7:20 a.m. - 2:34 p.m., Monday -Thursday  
7:20 a.m. - 2:05 p.m., Friday  
Elementary ..... 7:20 a.m. - 2:25 p.m., Monday - Thursday  
7:20 a.m. - 1:50 p.m. Friday

### Office Hours

Corporation: June 1 - July 30... 6 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Thursday  
Elementary and Jr/Sr High Schools ..... 6:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

All calls go directly to the principal's email and calls will be returned.

### Meal Prices

Kindergarten - Fifth Grade ..... \$2.25  
Sixth Grade - Eighth Grade ..... \$2.35  
Ninth Grade - Twelfth Grade ..... \$2.45

### Course Fees

Kindergarten ..... \$80  
First - Sixth ..... \$100  
Jr/Sr High School ..... Fees are dependent upon classes scheduled.  
There is a technology fee for high school of \$60 and \$30 for the junior high.

### School Closings and Delays

All closing and delay information will be posted on our website as well as local TV stations and WKVI radio station.

### Watch Our Website

Please keep an eye on our website, [www.odschools.org](http://www.odschools.org), for more information regarding registration and back-to-school activities. We have information about scheduling, class supplies, and calendars posted there for your convenience. We are looking forward to a successful new school year.

*With positive attitudes, effective communication between staff and families and perseverance, we can strive to make 2015-16 the best school year yet. We look forward to filling our hallways once again with eager, smiling faces.*





# Elementary Schools

## Oregon-Davis Elementary Adopts Project Lead The Way STEM Education Program

Oregon-Davis Elementary announced recently that it will begin offering hands-on, project-based science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) curriculum to students in grades K-5 as part of its implementation of the Project Lead The Way elementary school program. PLTW is the nation's leading provider of STEM programs to students in grades K-12, and Oregon-Davis Elementary joins more than 6,500 schools across the U.S. in offering PLTW Launch programs to their students. The new curriculum will start with the beginning of the 2015-16 school year.

Studies show students decide as early as elementary school whether they like, and think they are good at, math and science. Engaging them at a young age builds confidence, grows interest, and puts them on course for strong accomplishments in middle school, high school and beyond. Through the PLTW Launch, Oregon-Davis Elementary's students will become problem solvers. They'll engage in design problems that encourage collaboration and use touch technology, robotics and everyday materials to explore topics such as energy, light, sound, motion, stability and gravity.

"PLTW has a long history of successfully engaging students in STEM subjects," said William Bennett, principal of Oregon-Davis Elementary School. "We are excited to offer PLTW Launch to our students, giving them a chance to get excited about math, science and STEM concepts and pursue these subjects as they continue their educational careers."

Amy Borkholder and Allison Stone will be the Lead Teachers for PLTW. They will be working with students in second through sixth grades on a regular basis. In addition to working with students, Lead Teachers will be training other teachers to implement PLTW in the future.

"Project Lead The Way is proud to partner with Oregon-Davis Elementary to excite and engage students in math and science from the earliest ages," said PLTW President and Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Vince Bertram. "Together, we're helping students make connections, understand how the world works, and develop a strong foundation that will prepare them for success in their education, and ultimately, their careers."

In addition to providing world-class K-12 STEM programs, PLTW provides high-quality professional development training that equips teachers with the content, skills, and pedagogy required to teach each PLTW course. PLTW schools also benefit from the organization's engaged network of Fortune 500 companies, educators and partners. School-based PLTW Partnership Teams complement the curriculum by recruiting local business and industry professionals to serve as mentors and share their real-world experiences with students. For more information, visit [www.pltw.org](http://www.pltw.org).



*This new school year promises to be great as we set high expectations for learning and create opportunities for all students.*

## Jr.-Sr. High School

### Beloved Teacher Retires

The end of the last school year brought with it a bittersweet feeling as Oregon-Davis said farewell to one of our most beloved teachers, Christy VanDeMark. After 38 illustrious and accomplished years of teaching at Oregon-Davis Jr-Sr High School, Mrs. VanDeMark has decided to move on to the next chapter of her life: retirement. She will certainly be missed, but everyone in the Oregon-Davis family wishes her the best in her retirement. A retirement reception was held to honor her on May 20. Best wishes and good luck to Mrs. VanDeMark. You will be missed!

### Yellow Stone Trail Fest

In August, Oregon-Davis will participate in the Yellow Stone Trail Fest in Hamlet, Ind. Our art and construction students will pitch in to create a plywood cutout for photo opportunities and construct ramshackle music stations for a hobo village. Additionally, our music students will put their talents on display in the parade. We are also proud of our own Hannah Clark for organizing a 5K Color Run during the festival. Overall, this is a great event in our backyard, and Oregon-Davis is happy to participate in the festivities. The festival will be held on Aug. 15-16. For more information, visit the Yellow Stone Trail Fest website at <http://www.yellowstonetrailfest.com/Home.html>.



*Students will be able to thrive individually as well as in a group setting as the Oregon-Davis staff is committed to preparing students for the world of tomorrow.*

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

- Kurt Hayes .....President
- Andrea McIntosh .....Vice President
- Shirley Budka .....Secretary
- Chris Lawrence .....Member
- 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 Bennett .....Elementary Principal

Check out our new Website



odschools.org



There is something to smile about at Oregon-Davis Elementary School!

**OREGON-DAVIS**  
*Schoolhouse*  
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Hamlet, IN 46532

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Engaged and focused students are a typical site at Oregon-Davis Jr.-Sr. High School.

District Calendar 2015-16

Aug. 4 .....	First Day of School
Sept. 7 .....	No School
Oct. 6 .....	End of First Grading Period
Oct. 19 - 23 .....	Fall Break
Nov. 25 - 27 .....	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 18 .....	End of Second Grading Period
Dec. 21 - Jan. 1 .....	Christmas Break
Jan. 4 .....	No School (teachers records day)
Feb. 15 .....	No School (Presidents Day)
March 8 .....	End of Third Grading Period
March 25 .....	Good Friday (possible make-up day)
March 28 - April 8 .....	Spring Break
April 18 .....	No School (possible make-up day)
May 6 .....	No School (possible make-up day)
May 26 .....	End of Fourth Grading Period
May 27 .....	Last Student Day
May 31 - June 3 .....	Possible Make-up Days
June 3 .....	Graduation