


OMAHA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

NEWS & NOTES

May 7, 2007

ISSUE 36

ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS



Blessings! Every school that is accredited by the State of Nebraska is going through the School Improvement Process. This process is a five year cycle. It starts by the school doing a survey to constituents or graduates to gather data regarding thoughts or feelings regarding the school's strengths and weaknesses. A thorough demographic record is kept regarding who is coming to the school, and from what locations. Statistics are included regarding various aspects of the school. These include average scores on standardized tests, graduation rate of the seniors, percentage of students on the honor roll, and other informational data. Other information is gathered to determine a school improvement goal. A Steering Committee is put together to assist the administration and guide the process. Russ Gingrich is the chair of that committee and other parents, a board member, and several teachers serve on that committee. Through scores on standardized tests, a survey that was completed by the faculty, and the fact that writing across the curriculum is a requirement that is required by the State, Omaha Christian Academy chose writing across the curriculum as the school-wide goal that we were going to work on. We are in the middle of our first cycle, once this cycle is over, a new steering committee is formed, a new goal is selected and the whole process is begun again. The school's visit from the State department was this past Friday. Two superintendents and a principal from the area formed the team that reviews our paper work, interviews teachers, and reports to the State regarding the state of the school. At the end of the day they give an oral report to the administrator regarding how the written report to the state is going to read. I am very pleased to report that we enjoyed many more commendations than recommendations. We seem to be doing things properly. Other than some of the educational things that we can discuss at a later time, something that the team talked about that was very meaningful to me is our school climate. They discussed our school climate. They were impressed by the cohesiveness and unity of the staff, and were very impressed by the friendliness and politeness of our student body. They said that students held doors open for them,

greeted them, and over all seemed happy to be at the school. People who work here are influenced by the few and do not step back to get a general over-all view of the school. It was a great encouragement to me to hear three educators tell me what a great school climate they observed. Perhaps it has to do with acknowledging God in all we do.

A NOTE FROM THE CAFETERIA

Parents, if you have money left on your lunch account at the end of the school year, it will be credited to your tuition account. If you owe money on your lunch account, the balance will be billed to your tuition account.

CALENDAR

THIS WEEK - A Week

- May 7 - MS Track Meet @ Bergan - 3:30 PM
 - Drama Performance for drama parents/staff families - 7:00 PM
- May 8 - HS Performing Arts Concert - 7:00 PM
- May 9 - 8th gr. girls to Lydia House - 11:30 AM
- May 10 - District Track - 1:00 p.m.
- May 11 - Elementary Track & Field - 12:00 PM
 - School Drama & Renaissance Meal - 6:45 PM
- May 12 - 6th-8th grade Band to Adventurland
 - School Drama & Renaissance Meal

NEXT WEEK - B Week

- May 14 - HS Sports Awards - 7:00 PM
- May 15 - Physics to WOF - 5:30 AM
- May 16 - 5th Grade Music Recital - 1:30
- May 17 - Booster Club Meeting - 8:00 AM
 - Kindergarten Graduation - 7:00 PM
- May 18 - Elementary Awards
 - Last Day Elementary & Seniors
 - HS Awards - 7:00 PM
 - State Track Meet @ Burke
- May 19 - State Track Meet @ Burke

LOOKING AHEAD

- May 21 - Board Meeting - 6:30 PM
- May 22 - Last Day Middle School
 - MS Awards & 8th gr. Promotion - 7:00 PM
- May 24-25 - HS Final Exams
- May 25 - Last Day HS
- May 26 - HS Graduation - 10:00 AM

WEEK OF 5/7 THRU 5/11

May 7	Crispy Tacos w/ Lettuce & Cheese Cup Corn Fresh Apple Fun Shaped Cookie	Chicken Salad Pocket Corn Fresh Apple Fun Shaped Cookie
May 8	Breaded Beef Patty Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Hot Roll Strawberry Shortcake	Taco Salad Box Hot Roll Strawberry Shortcake
May 9	Pizza Hut Pizza Lettuce Salad Fruit Medley Sugar Cookie	Hummus & Veggies w/ Pita Triangles Lettuce Salad Fruit Medley Sugar Cookie
May 10	Chicken Teriyaki & Chow Mein Noodles over Rice Edamame Cantaloupe Pineapple Upside Down Cake	Meat & Cheese Bagel Edamame Cantaloupe Pineapple Upside Down Cake
May 11	Pancakes & Sausage Potato Rounds Orange Smiles Blueberry Muffin Sq.	Oriental Chicken Salad Potato Rounds Orange Smiles Blueberry Muffin Sq.

WEEK OF 5/14 THRU 5/21

May 14	Sloppy Joes Baby Carrots Peaches Baked Chips	Cottage Cheese/Fruit Baby Carrats Peaches Baked Chips
May 15	Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Rolls Corn Watermelon Choc. Chip Cookie	Tuna Salad Pocket Corn Watermelon Choc. Chip Cookie
May 16	BBQ Beef Patty on Bun Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Fresh Apple Brownie	Crispy Chick. Salad Box Fresh Apple Brownie
May 17	Bowtie Pasta w/ Meat Sauce Lettuce Salad Garlic Bun	Cottage Cheese & Jelly Sandwich Lettuce Salad
May 18	Chicken Nuggets Green Beans Grapes Tea Roll Chocolate Chip Cookie	Salad Box w/ Egg Green Beans Grapes Tea Roll Chocolate Chip Cookie

*Students may choose yogurt & cheesestick as a main dish alternative.

Milk will be served with all meals.

Cost: \$2.40 (K-4); \$2.55 (5-12); \$1.00 Extra Entrees

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider.

GUIDANCE CORNER

The Assistance League of Omaha is offering an ACT Review Course at Westside High School. The course consists of two classes with an optional third class for the writing portion of the test. Both classes must be attended to receive full coverage. The first class will be held on Monday, June 4, or Tuesday, June 5, from 6:30-9:30 pm. The second class will be held on Wednesday, June 6, or Thursday, June 7, from 6:30-9:30 pm. The optional third class will be held on Thursday, June 7, from 6:30-8:30 pm. The fee for two classes is \$30 and \$40 for all three classes. Registration forms are available in the guidance office.

Aim High Test Prep will conduct an ACT Test Prep Seminar from May 29 to June 8, 2007. The seminar entails nine days of instruction (36 hours total) leading right up to the test date. The seminar is offered at three times; 8 a.m. to noon, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., or 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. It will be held at Bellevue University, 2810 N. 118 Circle. The seminar cost is \$750.00 and advance reservation is required. To register call 491-0492.

Vector is now conducting interviews with high school students for summer work opportunities. Students must be at least 17 years old. They will be accepting applications on a first come, first serve basis. For an interview call 991-4660 or apply online at www.workforstudents.com.

College of Saint Mary and Alegent Health are offering several summer youth programs. The classes offered are for children in grades (post grade) 1-6. For more information or class availability, contact Suzanne Myers at 898-8013. For a complete listing of dates and times, or to register, visit them on the web at generationNExT.net. The Strategic Air and Space Museum will be conducting summer camps to increase interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math through Aviation and Space Exploration. For more information visit their website at www.strategicairandspace.com.

Calendar:

- May 8 - (Noon) - ACT Reg. Deadline for June 9 Test
- May 9 - Late SAT Registration Deadline for June 2 Test
- May 18 - Late ACT Registration Deadline for June 9 Test

BOOSTER CLUB NEEDS YOUR HELP

We are looking for a dedicated couple to organize the set-up and/or take down of the home basketball concession stand. Please give Jan Schulz a call, 334-5298 if you would be interested in helping OCA with this important service. Boosters have provided thousands of dollars in equipment, uniforms, instruments, etc., making the extra-curricular activities more enjoyable for your kids! Booster Club also thanks Tom and Donna Kotchka for their many years of service to OCA, they will be missed!

WALK-A-THON

Greetings Dear OCA!!!

Yeah God!!!!!!

What an amazing day last Tuesday proved to be. The weather cooperated, and from all accounts, the Walk a Thon was a treat for all.

My heartfelt thanks to everybody that came together to make the day a success. It truly was a day of fellowship, fun, food and fundraising.

The committee could not have done it without the support and encouragement of so many of you.

The Walk-a-Thon was also a financial success. Money will continue to come in over the next few weeks, but as of last Thursday, the school had raised, as profit, almost \$25,000. What a blessing!

As this year's Walk-a-Thon rundown I am already looking forward to next years. I have asked for time at the next school board meeting and will ask that I be allowed the privilege of coordinating the 2nd Annual OCA Walk-a-Thon.

That being said, I need your constructive criticism of this years event. Any ideas, suggestions, or concerns that you had with the event this year will be greatly appreciated. Please pass me a note, email me, or call me.

This year was a great success, I would like next years event to be even better.

Again, thank you for your time, support, and encouragement. The memories I made last Tuesday while watching the students circle the track and play at the festival are ones that I will treasure a lifetime.

Kimber McLean
tkfrogmclean@msn.com
689-0311 (cell)
682-0330 (home)



A NOTE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

It has been some time since we reported on the search for a superintendent for OCA. We are entering a critical time in that process and seek your continued prayers for wisdom.

The position has been announced in various forms and to date we have received over two dozen resumes and inquiries. The search committee has narrowed the field of applicants to 3 experienced school administrators. During the week of May 14 these individuals will be invited to Omaha Christian Academy for interviews by the Search Committee. Following that process, a final candidate will be selected and recommended to the board for their consideration.

It has been a rather long, but interesting process. While there are many Christian schools across the USA the numbers of qualified administrators that are able and looking to lead a school like OCA are relatively few. We covet your prayers as we enter this final stage of our search.



DRAMA PRODUCTION

"An evening in the forest of Arden" our drama department's spring production is May 11 & 12. This year's drama is a full evening of renaissance fun, food, and festivity. Character portrayals are rich both in improvisation as well as in script. The students' performances will delight and entertain you. A hearty renaissance meal will be served, and then we will be presenting "As You Like It" by William Shakespeare as the centerpiece of our "evening in the forest." Tickets for the May 11 and 12 performances are on sale in the school office as well as after school in the downstairs foyer. The cost of the tickets are \$7.00 for students and \$10 for adults.

*There will be a no-meal performance on May 7 for drama parents and staff families.

MAGAZINE SALES

Surprisingly, you may be getting renewal slips already for some magazines that you ordered. The magazine companies send them out earlier and earlier to get your business. Please wait until the fall to reorder your magazines. We will be holding our annual Magazine Sales Fundraiser once again after school starts. If you would like to order something before then, please go to www.qsp.com (click 'shop now') and place your order. You may credit the sale to "Omaha Christian Academy" and OCA will get 40% of the sale! There are other items on this site besides magazines that you may also order. Tell your friends and family! If you have not received a magazine that you ordered last fall, or have a problem with your order, please call QSP: 800-678-2673 to resolve the problem.

TRINITY FESTIVAL RESULTS



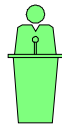
TRINITY FESTIVAL RESULTS -ART

MUSIC

Beginning Band - Superior
Middle School Band - Excellent
4th Grade Choir - Superior
5th & 6th Grade Choir - Superior
7th & 8th Grade Choir - Superior
7th & 8th Grade Ladies Ensemble - Superior
Caitlyn Ostry: Alto Sax Solo - Superior
Rachel Sweeney: Tuba Solo - Superior
Mark Clifton: Xylophone Solo - Superior
Stacia Howell: Alto Sax Solo - Superior
Lauren Abell, Tyler Deaver, Nick Jenkins, Nate Manus:
Sax Quartet - Superior
Nikki Tulsie: Vocal Solo - Superior
Lizzy Lyle, Micaela Myers: Flute Duet: Superior
Kenny Clow/Steven Putman: Snare Drum Duet - Excellent
Kelcey Arndt: Violin Solo - Excellent
Olivia Lovgren: Violin Solo - Superior
Kelly Nupson & Sarah Reinholz: Flute Duet: Superior
Jonathon Howell: Trumpet Solo - Superior
Rachel Sweeney: Baritone Solo - Superior
Josh Buckingham-Weibel, Nate Manus, Carson Wirges:
Vocal Trio - Excellent
Landon Folkers: Snare Drum Solo - Excellent
Meredith Roberts & Rachel Sweeney:
Vocal Duet - Superior

SPEECH

Joanna James: Bible - Superior
Colton Folkers: Poetry - Excellent
Mitchell Francis: Bible - Excellent
Kari Nupson: Poetry - Excellent
Nachia Olsen: Poetry - Excellent
Brooke Mott: Poetry - Superior
Kaitlyn Pearson: Bible - Superior
Erin Clifton: Poetry - Superior
Jessica Colegrove: Patriotic - Excellent
Jesse Richards: Bible - Excellent
Mikayla Rye: Poetry - Superior
Shye Wirges: Bible - Good
Lizzy Lyle: Poetry - Superior
Olivia Lovgren: Bible - Excellent
Micaela Meyers: Dramatic - Superior
Julianna Myers: Dramatic - Superior



First Grade:

Lauren Brockmeier - Excellent
Cassady Hansen - Excellent
Elizabeth Hawk - Superior
Joanna James - Superior
Macy Myers - Excellent
Maja Reinholz - Superior
Mitchell Taylor - 3 Excellents
Isabelle Vargas - Superior

Second Grade:

Kelsay Combs-Brown - Excellent
Serenity Bryce - Excellent
Mitchell Francis - Excellent
Grant Rye - 3 Superiors & 1 Excellent
Madison Vesely - 2 Superiors
Erin Weightman - Superior

3rd Grade:

Mikayla Arrington - 2 Excellents & 2 Superiors
Jeremy James - Excellent
Emmie Myers - Excellent
Bryce Taylor - 1 Superior & 3 Excellents

4th Grade:

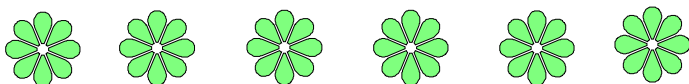
Nick Arrington - Superior
Erin Clifton - Superior
Cameron Kiner - Excellent
Rachel Lee - Excellent
McKenna Lewis - Excellent
Hannah Lindsey - 2 Excellents
Brooke Mott - 3 Superiors
Morgan Myers - Excellent
Ashley Peterson - Superior
Lyle Reinholz - Excellent
Sarah Smith - 1 Excellent & 1 Good
Zoe Svatos - 1 Superior & 2 Excellents

5th Grade

Robin Chaterjee - Good
Erin Clifton - 1 Superior & 3 Excellents
Jessica Colegrove - Superior
Abby Gingrich - 1 Superior & 1 Good
Amanda Krehbiel - 2 Superiors
Mikayla Rye - 2 Superiors & 6 Excellents
Catherine Vargas - Superior: BEST IN SHOW
Rachel Walter - 4 Superiors: BEST IN SHOW

6th Grade:

Lauren Abell - 3 Superiors & 1 Excellent



We will be recognizing these students plus speech winners during chapel May 10th.

DISTRICT MUSIC RESULTS

High School Choir - 1+
Ensemble - 1
Senior Ensemble - 2
High School Band - 2
Cale Schulz: Piano Solo - 1
Jared Williams: Piano Solo - 1
Katilyn Kotchka: Vocal Solo - 1
Beth Stone: Vocal Solo - 2
Stephen Jay: Vocal Solo - 2
Aaron Nilius: Vocal Solo - 3
Tabitha Hamilton & Jackie Johnson: Vocal Duet - 1
Tyler Maskell & Loni Willis: Vocal Duet - 2
Kati Phillips: Vocal Solo - 1
Jackie Johnson, Liz Putman, Steve Perry, Alex West:
Vocal Quartet - 1
Marissa Lindsey & Emily Lovgren: Flute Duet - 2
Camille Stortenbecker, Jackie Johnson, Kandace
McLean, Emily Lovgren, Marissa Lindsey, Lizzy
Webster, Allison Rozema: Flute Ensemble - 2
Casey Bailey, Ben Deaver, Laura Henkenius, Nathan
Lyle, Lauren Strasser, Wyatt Wirges, Pam Zimmerle:
Percussion Ensemble - 2
Brian Jay: Trombone Solo - 2
Sean West: Alto Saxophone Solo - 2
Chris Kersey: Alto Saxophone Solo - 1
Chris Kersey, Garrett Wirges, Jacob Richards, Nick
Jenkins: Saxophone Quartet - 2
Stephen Jay: Trumpet Solo - 2
Michael Howell: Trumpet Solo - 2
Camille Stortenbecker: Flute Solo - 2
Rachel Bebee: Violin Solo - 1
Janelle Ostry, Katy Schulz, Kathryn White:
Clarinet Trio - 2

TRACK & FIELD DAY LUNCH

K-6th grade has the option of ordering a sack lunch from the cafeteria (orders will be taken on Thursday) or they may bring a lunch from home. 7th-8th grade will have the option of hot lunch, cold lunch, or a lunch from home.



ATTENTION PARENTS

The office is in the process of collecting pictures for next year's yearbooks. If you have pictures you would like to donate, please turn them into the school office.



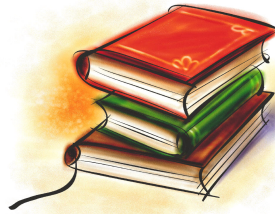
HELP A CHILD IN NEW DEHLI, INDIA!



Bring books to donate
Books for ages newborn to 5th grade

Donate by Friday, 5/18/07
There will be a box outside
of the school office
to drop off your books.

All of these books will be taken on a
mission trip this summer and disbursed
at orphanages and to individual
children.



CHALLENGE:
How many books
will you give?



FALL YOUTH SPORTS SIGN-UPS



K-6th co-ed fall soccer, 5th & 6th flag football, and 5th & 6th volleyball sign-ups are on **Thursday, May 17** from 3:15-5:45 p.m. in the downstairs foyer. Soccer, Flag Football, & Volleyball seasons start before school starts in the fall. So, sign-ups need to take place before school lets out because it is difficult to get registrations in during the summer. The soccer, flag football & volleyball seasons are Aug. 18th-Oct. 13th. Teams will be formed by the grade level your child will be in this fall. The fee is \$49.00. There will be a new Youth Sports shirt this fall. The cost is \$8.00 and will reflect the new school colors of navy and gold. For more information call Terri Zimmerle, 493-2850, email at tzimmerle@aol.com, or send a PAN. A registration form has been attached to this News & Notes, and posted on OCA's website and Sycamore Ed. Please register early to guarantee a spot on a team.