


# OMAHA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

## NEWS & NOTES

August 13, 2007

ISSUE 1

### ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

 Greetings! My name is Gene Bentley and I am looking forward to serving as your Superintendent at OCA for the 2007-2008 school year. I have been in Christian education 15 years except for the past year as I was retired. Retirement was not for me. As I have told the teachers, it was never my intention to be in Christian education as I had the best that public schools had to offer. However, due to a life changing experience and the Lord's leading, my mind was changed. I have found that the most dedicated and superior teachers, as well as students are in Christian education. I count it a blessing to be here and please know my door is always open. I enjoy meeting parents.

A little about my family, my wife's name is Sue and we have been married 44 years. We have two children and five grandchildren.

My vision for OCA is to work closely with Tim Thompson, and with the Lord's leading, help move this school forward.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**SEPTEMBER 14**

Plan to attend our first home football game. We will be welcoming Mr. Thompson and his family. The game begins at 4:00 p.m. It will be a fun-filled evening. More details to follow.

### BOOSTER CLUB MEETING

Monday, August 20th at 8:00 a.m.

Village Inn at 58th and L

Please come and help get the year started off!

### MAGAZINE SALES

Once again all OCA students/families will be selling magazines to raise money for the school. This fundraiser is needed to help reduce the cost of tuition. Magazine sales will begin before Labor Day weekend. You may purchase new magazines for yourself or others, as well as renew subscriptions. There is also a Christian CD section which would make great gifts!

Have you been receiving magazine renewal slips? Save them! The renewal slip prices will be honored. By ordering through the OCA Magazine Fundraiser, OCA receives the 40% profit

Volunteers are needed for the following areas: tabulating the sales on turn in days, helping at the prize store, with clerical help, phone calls and data entry input. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Patricia Lewis, 719-8320 or [patricialewis@huntel.net](mailto:patricialewis@huntel.net).

## CALENDAR

### THIS WEEK - A Week

August 13 - Fall Sports Practice Begins

August 15 - HS Classes Begin

August 16 - Parent Orientation - 6:30 PM

August 17 - 1st Grade Picnic @ Pipal Park - 6:00 PM

### NEXT WEEK - B Week

August 20 - MS Classes Begin

August 20 - Board Meeting - 6:30 PM

August 22 - 1st-4th Grade Begins

August 23 - Preschool & Kindergarten Begins

August 24 - Blue & White Scrimmage - 4:00 PM

### LOOKING AHEAD

August 30 - Magazine Sale Kick-off

August 31 - FB @ Johnson-Brock - 7:00 PM

Sept 3 - NO SCHOOL - Labor Day

Sept 4 - JV FB @ Mead - 6:00 PM

- V VB @ Macy 6:30 PM

Sept 6 - JV/V vs Parkview @ Grace U - 5:30/6:45

Sept 7 - FB @ Macy - 7:00 PM

Sept 8 - V VB @ Boystown - 9:00 AM

Sept 10 - JV FB @ Parkview - 4:00 PM

Sept 11 - Parent Connection Meeting - 7:00 PM

Sept 13 - C/JV/V VB @ Brownell - 5:30/6:30/7:30

Sept 14 - FB vs Millegan - 4:00 PM

Sept 17 - Board Meeting - 6:30 PM

Sept 18 - Association Meeting - 7:00 PM

**WEEK OF 8/15 THRU 8/17**

Aug 15	Chicken Nuggets Green Beans Fresh Fruit Dinner Roll School Fuel	Cottage Cheese & Fruit Green Beans Fresh Fruit Dinner Roll School Fuel
Aug 16	Hamburger Potato Rounds Apple Wedges Chocolate Cake	Crispy Chicken Sal. Box Potato Rounds Apple Wedges Chocolate Cake
Aug 17	Sub Sandwich Cucumber Slices/Ranch Pears Rice Krispy Treat	Cottage Cheese & Fruit Cucumber Slices/Ranch Pears Rice Krispy Treat

**WEEK OF 8/20 THRU 8/24**

Aug 20	Pancakes & Sausage Tri Tator Cherries Rotella's Raisin Bread	Deli Sandwich Tri Tator Cherries Rotella's Raisin Bread
Aug 21	Grilled Chick Filet Sand. Seasoned Fries Apple Wedges White Cake/Pink Frost.	Chef Salad Box Seasoned Fries Apple Wedges White Cake/Pink Frost
Aug 22	Pizza Hut Pizza Lettuce Salad Peaches Sugar Cookie	Chicken Caesar Wrap Lettuce Salad Peaches Sugar Cookie
Aug 23	Nachos w/ Beef/Cheese Shredded Lettuce Cup Cheesy Bean Dip Watermelon Cinnamon Crumb Cake	Grilled Chicken Salad Cheesy Bean Dip Watermelon Cinnamon Crumb Cake
Aug 24	BBQ Chicken (bone-in) Corn Cobbette Cantaloupe Fluffy Dinner Roll Chocolate Cookie	Taco Salad Box Corn Cobbette Cantaloupe Fluffy Dinner Roll Chocolate 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.

**WHY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION II**

Recently, I was in a conversation with the parent of an OCA student. During that conversation the topic of the quality of education in the public school system was discussed. It is generally agreed that the public schools are good in Omaha and Council Bluffs, as well as the outlying districts such as District 66, Elkhorn, Gretna, Blair, Bennington and others. In fact, public education across most Mid Western states scores above national testing norms.

With such good schools why then has the home school and private school movement been so successful. The answer seems to lie in what is not taught in public schools.

Over the last two or three decades American culture has increasingly shifted to a point where all ideas and values are of equal merit. No matter the merit or implications of an idea, if you believe it with sufficient passion, it is acceptable. There has been the abandonment of the concept of any absolute truth. With no absolutes, there is no basis to evaluate an idea or concept.

This absence of absolutes, and the resulting acceptance of all ideas, have been completely embraced by the public school system and most other institutions in our society. Another way to express this phenomena is that public schools have become value neutral. They are unable to take a position on any value-based idea or opinion. Historical Judeo-Christian perspectives on such core ideas as the sanctity of life, the origin of life, natural law, and others are, at best subject to debate, and most cases officially rejected or not appropriate for a public school to defend.

Parents seeking private school or home school options frequently are seeking a quality educational experience for their children but in the context of core values by which they can live their lives. Increasingly, in this emerging information age, two issues will determine an individuals success no matter occupation or life ministry - knowledge and values. The public school system can do an excellent job on the former. They are finding it increasingly difficult to be relevant in the latter.

Why Christian Education? Why OCA? OCA provides a quality educational experience as demonstrated by results from national testing that show our students exceed national averages for every grade and in every subject; that quality education is provided in the context of a value system that will last a lifetime. This is a value system that will serve our students in further educational endeavors, their marriage, their home, their work place, their relationships and social life, and any area of service to mankind they choose.

Yes, one can get a quality education in the regions' public schools. The math, science, English and other classes will have good content. The risk is the "Do it yourself" approach to the values. That is a risk that many OCA parents have chosen not to take.

*~Dr. Robert Sweeney*

**Please send in lunch money for your lunch account. The lunch/milk account is a separate account from your tuition account. Parents can check lunch/milk accounts on Sycamore Education for a daily balance.**