

News & Notes

From the Director

March 20, 2009

It has been said that apart from discipleship, Christianity is just a one generational movement. The statistical realities are these: *

- A smaller percentage of the millennial generation (those age 24 and under) attend church than any generation in American history. Of those who grow up in church, 70% no longer attend by the time they're in their 20s.
- American Christians are having an average of 1.9 children per family (not enough to replace themselves) while Muslims are having an average of 3.5. Christianity will be easily outpaced by Islam unless Christians bring more non-believing young people into the faith.
- The American family is hurting. One-third of young adults will spend tonight in a home where their biological father is not present and the National Research Council says that one out of four American youth is at "serious risk of not achieving productive adulthood."

This isn't just "interesting" or "another view." The future is at stake here. Every one of us is called to act.

Omaha Christian Academy stands with your family in teaching and proclaiming a Christian worldview to the next generation. Every student is vitally important in standing firm against godlessness and standing strong for Christian values. By God's grace, our commitment is that the Christianity of our generation will become the Christianity of the next generation!!

Tim Thompson
Director

* Quote & Statistical information from Dr. Jeff Myers, *Get Ready to Lead*, March 17, 2009

Enroll Now!

Online at www.sycamoreeducation.com

"But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint".

Isaiah 40:31



School Calendar	
March 21	Track Meet @ NE Wesleyan U. - 9:00
March 21	Quiz Bowl @ Thomas Jefferson HS, Council Bluffs, IA
March 24	Kindergarten Roundup - 1:30 pm
March 27	Ensemble Concert @ Elk Ridge Assisted Living - 1:15 pm
March 29	HS Band @ Hope Evangelical Free Church - 8:45 am
March 30	NFC Quiz Bowl @ College View - 4:00
March 31	Boys Soccer @ Conestoga - 4:30 pm
April 3	No School Elementary & MS
April 3	Christian Arts & Academic Meet @ OCA - Speech & Math
April 4	Quiz Bowl @ Lincoln - 9:00 am
April 6-10	No School - Spring Break
April 6	Boys Soccer @ Ralston - 5:30 pm
April 7	Boys Soccer @ Boystown - 6:00 pm
April 13-17	SAT Testing Grades 2nd-11th
April 14	Track @ NE Wesleyan U. - 9:15 am
April 14	Boys Soccer vs Gretna - 6:00 pm
April 16	Boys Soccer vs Elkhorn - 5:00 pm
April 17	Christian Arts & Academic Meet @ Trinity - Music & Art
April 17	Preschool Donuts with Dad - 10:00 am
April 17	Junior/Senior Banquet - 6:00 pm
April 18	Quiz Bowl @ Norris HS, Firth NE
April 18	MS Track @ Iowa School for the Deaf, Council Bluffs, IA - 1:00 pm
April 21	Track @ Syracuse - 10:00 am
April 21	Boys Soccer vs Creighton Prep - 4:30
April 24	District Music Contest
April 25	Track @ Wahoo - 9:00 am
April 27	Elem. Spring Concert - 7:00 pm

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are being sent home today with students. You may also access your child's report card on Sycamore Education. Follow these steps:

1. Login on Sycamore Education using your family login and password.
2. In the left column, click on "My Organizer"
3. In the left column, click on "My Students"
4. In the main window, click on your child's "code" number.
5. In the window that pops up, click on the "Documents" tab.
6. Click on the "2008-2009 Grade Card - Q3"

Report cards for grades 7th-12th show a second semester grade. This grade is inaccurate as it only reflects the third quarter grade.

FRONTIER CONFERENCE ART EXHIBIT



The recent Frontier Conference Art Exhibit at OCA turned out very nice. Four schools participated; Cedar Bluffs, Parkview Christian, Prague and OCA. The OCA high school students with work on display were: Keegan Kalisch, Ethan Thompson, Sam Minturn, Blaize Smith, Nolan Crawford, Alex Patterson, Collin Arant, Keirstyn Heinemann, Jessica Anderson. Also, the following middle school students had their work displayed; Will Theroult, Alia Brown, Grace Stiansen, AnthonyValdez, Micaela Myers and Amanda Krehbiel. A total of eight "Viewers Favorite" ribbons were awarded, which were determined by viewer ballot. Three went to OCA students; Keegan Kalisch received two and Nolan Crawford received one. Congratulations!

Thanks for the school support and participation.

~Jim Dods, Art Teacher

FREE ITEMS

OCA has a ping pong table and a whirl pool tub that we would like to give away. If you are interested in either of these items or have any questions, please contact either Tim Hamilton or Pete Smagacz at school, 399-9565.

Spring Achievement Testing

It is that time of the year again to begin thinking of Spring Achievement Testing. OCA Students, grades 2-11, will be testing the week of April 13th. Please note that this is the week after Spring Break and Easter. It is important that all students are in school that week to participate in the testing. It is also important for the students to get a good night's sleep and have a good breakfast. Please contact the guidance office if you have any questions or concerns.



2009-2010 Calendar

An updated 2009-2010 calendar is attached to this edition of *News & Notes*. Please review this for revisions.

SPRING IS HERE...



...Track & Soccer have begun.

Support your Eagles at the upcoming soccer games and track meets and wear your navy blue.

Guidance Corner

- ⇒ The Lincoln Builders Bureau is sponsoring a \$750 scholarship for member company employees and their children. The number of scholarships that will be awarded is yet to be determined. Applicants must be enrolled, or planning to enroll in an accredited college or trade school with a focus of construction science. For company member eligibility, go to www.buildersbureau.com. Click on the buyers guide tab, then membership directory to confirm a member company. Awards will be based primarily on academic performance, work experience, community involvement and career goals. Applications are available in the guidance office. Deadline is April 1.
- ⇒ Seniors interested in attending UNK should contact the guidance office for a scholarship opportunity.
- ⇒ BryanLGH College of Health Sciences will be hosting an Exploration Day on Saturday, March 28 at 9:00 am. Students interested in attending can call 1-800-742-7844, ext. 18697 to make a reservation.
- ⇒ Information is available in the guidance office for juniors who are interested in applying to the United States Service Academy and intend to enter academy classes starting July 2010. This information is also available on Senator Nelson's website at <http://bennelson.senate.gov>.
- ⇒ UNL's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources and the Natural Resources Conservation Service are searching for individuals who are interested in a career such as a Soil Conservationist, a Soil Scientist, a Rangeland Management Specialist, or a Civil or Agricultural Engineer. They are offering The Conservation Scholarship Program for the 2009/10 academic year. It includes one \$1,000 scholarship at the UNL College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources and in the Summer 2010, NRCS will provide on-the-job summer employment. If interested in this opportunity contact the guidance office. Application deadline is April 1.
- ⇒ The Assistance League of Omaha is offering an ACT Review Course at Westside High School. The course includes two, three-hour sessions with an optional third session addressing ACT writing. The first session will be held on Monday, March 30 or Tuesday, March 31 from 6:30-9:30 pm. The second session will be held on Wednesday, April 1 or Thursday, April 2 from 6:30-9:30 pm. The optional third session will be held on Thursday, April 2 from 6:30-8:30 pm. There is a \$30 fee for two sessions and \$40 for all three sessions. Registration forms are available in the guidance office.

Calendar:

- March 23 - Missouri State University Rep Visit
- March 31 - SAT Reg. Deadline for May 2 Test
- April 2 - Air Force Rep Visit
- April 9 - Late SAT Registration Deadline for May 2 Test
- April 13-17 - Spring Achievement Testing for Grades 2-11

OMAHA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

5612 "L" Street
Omaha, NE 68117


Phone: 402-399-9565
Fax: 402-399-0248

E-mail: ktulsie@ocamail.org

www.omahachristianacademy.org



Excellence in Christ-centered Education





OCA/West YMCA Summer Youth Sports K-8th Boys/Girls Baseball/Softball Sign-ups!

Season: May 30-July 25, 2009

Cost: \$52.00 per player
Summer sign-ups going on now!

- Registration forms will be accepted with a postmarked date of March 20th to April 4th with *no late fee*.
- If you would like to have a neighbor, friend, or relative on an OCA team with your child, they may register during the *no late fees* time frame.
- All OCA families will have first priority.
- Registrations postmarked April 5-11 will acquire a *\$10.00 late fee*.
- No registrations accepted after post-marked date of April 11.
- Checks will be deposited no sooner than April 12.
- Make checks payable to Youth Sports
- Mail payment and completed registration form to:

Youth Sports
c/o Joyce West
6813 N. 102nd Ave. Cir.
Omaha, NE 68122

School Lunch Menu

	Entree	Sides/Dessert
March 23	HOT— Crispy Tacos with Lettuce & Cheese COLD— Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich	Corn Applesauce School Fuel
March 24	HOT— Chicken Nuggets COLD—Taco Salad Box	Glazed Carrots Berry Medley Dinner Roll Tollhouse Cookie Bar
March 25	HOT— Waffle Sticks with Sausage Links COLD—Crispy Chicken in a Spinach Tortilla Wrap	Tri Tater Peach Cup Toasti 'O Munch
March 26	HOT— Lasagna COLD—Italian Pasta Salad	Italian Green Beans Grapes Breadstick Italian Flag Cake
March 27	HOT— School Cheese Pizza COLD— Crispy Chicken Salad Box	Lettuce Salad Mixed Fruit Chocolate Chocolate Chip Cookie

Students may choose yogurt & cheese stick as a main dish alternative.

Milk will be served with all meals.

Cost: \$2.60(Pre-K-5); \$2.75 (5-12); \$1.00 Extra Entrees

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Cub Scout Corner

Gentlemen Start Your Engines! The April Pack Meeting will be our annual Pinewood Derby. Check with your Den Leader for the information you need about your car.

Troop 812 will be hosting us and providing the track at Christ Community Church.



OMAHA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

2009-2010 Calendar

August 2009

M	10	Faculty In-Service
Th	13	Back-To-School Day
M	17	High School Classes Begin
M	24	Middle School Classes Begin
W	26	Elementary Classes Begin

September 2009

M	7	Labor Day – No School
F	18	Fall Festival

October 2009

F	9	End of 1 st Quarter
W-F	14-16	Faculty In-Service – No School
M	19	Parent/Teacher Conferences – No School

November 2009

Th-F	26-27	Thanksgiving Holiday – No School
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December 2009

W-F	16-18	High School Semester Exams
F	18	End of 1 st Semester
M	21	Christmas Break Begins

January 2010

M	4	Classes Resume – 2 nd Semester Begins
M	18	Martin Luther King Day – No School

February 2010

F-M	12-15	Faculty In-Service/Presidents' Day – No School
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March 2010

F	12	End of 3 rd Quarter
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April 2010

M-F	March 29-April 2	Spring Break – No School
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May 2010

T	18	Kindergarten Graduation
W	19	Elementary Awards
TH	20	Last Day Elementary
F	21	MS Awards/HS Awards – Last Day MS/seniors
W-F	26-28	High School Final Exams
F	28	Last Day 9-11
SA	29	High School Commencement

EducationQuest Foundation

College Planning Bulletin

A monthly college planning guide for Nebraska high school students

April 2009

Seniors ... it's decision time!

Attention seniors: It's time to make the big college decision and determine where you'll spend the next 4-5 years of your life!

As you make your decision, have a heart-to-heart talk with your parents to make sure you pick your college for the right reasons, not because it's where your friends - or your girlfriend or boyfriend - are going. Talk about the following:

Location. Is the college too close? If you come home every weekend, you won't experience true campus life. Is the college too far away? If travel costs are prohibitive, you may not make it home as often as you'd like.

Cost. Can your family afford the school? What can you expect for financial aid beyond the freshman year? Did you receive renewable scholarships?

Academic program. Does the college offer the program that interests you? What happens if you change majors—does the college offer other programs of interest?

Amount of loans required. If you borrow the maximum Stafford loan amount each year for four years, you're looking at \$27,000 in loans – and that means a future monthly payment of approximately \$300 per month. But what a great investment! You should also calculate how much your parents will need to borrow in PLUS loans. Use the [Student Loan Repayment Calculator](#) at EducationQuest.org to estimate future student loan payments.

The EducationQuest Web site features other tools that can help you make the final decision including the [Award Letter Comparison Calculator](#) and the [College Comparison Calculator](#).

Juniors ... start looking for scholarships

Thousands of scholarships are available to help students pay for college. Students who earn the most scholarships complete *at least* 30-40 applications. Here's how you can be one of those students ...

Start searching! In addition to your guidance office, check out free sites including [ScholarshipQuest](#) at **EducationQuest.org**. Note the awards current seniors are receiving - they're often listed in your local newspaper. Other sources might include your parent's employer, your employer or local service organizations.

Create files and place scholarship applications in deadline order.

Get involved in extracurricular activities and community service. This is a critical component on most scholarship applications – and is the only criteria on some.

Earn the best possible grades and entrance exam scores. These factors are especially important for college-based scholarships.

Determine if you will qualify for need-based scholarships by completing the [College Funding Estimator](#) at EducationQuest.org.

Talk to colleges about specific scholarships they offer.

Scholarship warning...

As a junior or senior, you'll receive offers for scholarship and financial aid services. If they charge a fee, investigate them thoroughly. EducationQuest will help you complete financial aid forms for free and will guide you to free scholarship search resources. For more information, talk to your guidance counselor or call EducationQuest at 800-666-3721.

Were you in Lincoln for Boys' State Basketball? Did you go to Gateway Westfield Mall?

EducationQuest was at the mall Thursday, March 12 and Friday, March 13 promoting the KnowHow2GO Campaign. The campaign provides four steps you need to follow to make college a reality. For all the details – and to see photos from the event – visit [KnowHow2GONEbraska.org!](#)

April "To Do" List

Seniors

- Expect your college financial aid award letters
- Continue applying for scholarships
- Start purchasing dorm essentials now to avoid sticker shock in August
- Start looking for a summer job

Juniors

- Register by March 31 for the May 2 SAT
 - Register by May 5 for the June 6 SAT
 - Register by May 8 for the June 13 ACT
 - Schedule campus visits while schools are still in session
 - Start looking for scholarships
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For free help with college planning, contact EducationQuest Foundation:

Kearney

308-234-6310
800-666-3721

Lincoln

402-475-5222
800-303-3745

Omaha

402-391-4033
888-357-6300

[EducationQuest.org](#)