

Osan American High School

May 2009

Issue #7

Principal: Mr. Timothy J. Erickson
784-9098

<http://www.osan-hs.pac.dodea.edu>

Superintendent: Mr. Doug Kelsey
738-6826



“Home of the
Cougars”

Mission Statement

Osan American High School, working in partnership with its community, provides educational opportunities that emphasize commitment, responsibility, and high level skills to empower students to succeed in a global society.

School Improvement Goals

Goal 1: All students will increase their ability to evaluate what they read across the curriculum.

Goal 2: All students will improve analytical writing across the curriculum.

Principal's



Accelerated Withdrawal Date

DoDEA policy is that students withdrawing from school before the end of the semester may be granted credit for an accelerated study program, outlined by the teachers involved and approved in advance by the principal, providing that the withdrawal date is no earlier than 20 school days before the end of the semester. Students meeting conditions of the accelerated program are to be granted semester grades and credits. The conditions and procedures for acceleration to complete courses are outlined in our parent-Student handbook and are as follows:

1. The sponsor must present PCS orders or a written request (if orders are not yet available) to the registrar at least 30 days prior to the departure date.
2. Semester credit is earned if there are fewer than 20 days left in the semester before the departure date.
3. The withdrawal date from school is TWO (2) days prior to the departure date.
4. All completed accelerated work must be turned into the individual teachers no later than five (5) school days prior to withdrawal from school. The acceleration date for this semester is May 13, 2009.

Important Dates:**This Month: MAY**

- 1 - Foreign Language Festival@Jinwee
- 2 - SAT & Subject Tests
 - SoftballBaseball@SAHS
 - MS Girl Basketball@YISS
- 4-14 AP Testing
- 7 - PTSO Meeting-1600-IC
- 9 - Softball/baseball@DAS
 - MS Boys Basketball@Osan
- 13 - Accelerated Withdrawal Date (Spring Semester)
- 15 - Softball/Baseball@Osan
- 16 - Jr & Sr Prom - Songtan
 - MS Boy Basketball@YISS
 - Softball/BaseBall@Osan
- 21 - Yearbook seminar
- 22 - Early Release of students
- 23 - 2000-Yearbook Banquet
- 25 - Memorial Day Holiday - No school
- 26-29 - Senior Finals

Next Month: JUNE

- 4 - PTSO Mtg - IC
- 4 - Senior Graduation - 1900@ Theater
- 6 - SAT & Subject Tests
- 8-11 Jun - Underclassmen Finals
- 8 - Dismissal at 1130
- 9 - Dismissal at 1130
- 10 - Dismissal at 1130
- 11 - End of 4th QTR-last day for students /dismissal at 1005
- 12 - No school for students/Teacher work day

Don't forget to sign in the office when visiting the campus.

Lunch Price-\$2.20/Milk-.60/Lunch plus is an additional .75.

**Osan American Middle/High School****On Top Of the World**

Not many folks can say this, but this week Osan American Middle/High School is literally on top of the world! Hailing as the current number one school in a current world wide test of athletic performance and endurance. Exuberantly taking on a world-wide challenge the Osan Cougars are in a competition with over 220 schools and almost 23,000 students to follow the trek of Pail Staso on his 500 mile solo trek across Alaska. The various schools competing hail from the Cayman Islands to Germany all vying for the top prize. In the first four days of competition the 113 athletically, ambitious Osan students logged over 800 miles through rain and wind to achieve this lofty goal. Even with the inclement weather averaged an amazing almost 4 miles an hour pace. Top run/walkers so far are R.M. and N.S. who logged an insane 7.75 and 6.16 miles for their 60 minutes.

**District Foreign Language Festival
Jinwee High School**

Osan American High School will again be hosting the annual Foreign Language Festival for DoDDS students in French, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, and English as a Second Language. The location has been changed this year and, for the first time, it will be held at our nearby Korean Sister School, Jinwee High School. This will be a wonderful opportunity for students to have a truly international experience on a beautiful Korean campus. Over 200 students from DoDDS schools all over Korea will be participating. Also, over 70 volunteers are coming from Osan Air Base to work as language judges, performers, and assistants. The majority of the volunteers are active duty military with language or cultural talents. Kukje College is also coming to perform with their professional Martial Arts Team. Many thanks go to the ESC, the OSC, and the PTSO for providing the funds that make this event possible. It will be a wonderful experience for all involved.



Osan Leading the Way

on the DODDS Foreign

Language STAMP Test

OAHS Administration and Students Participate in local Arbor Day

To honor the annual Arbor Day here at Osan Air Base, nearly 200 Koreans and Americans rolled up their sleeves together Thursday, put on gloves, grabbed shovels and dug their way into repopulating the mountain-side of Jisandong, Songtan, with the traditional planting of plum trees. The Songtan Board of Council invited 25 personnel from Osan Air Base community to join them in the celebration of nature and the environment. The group of volunteers consisted of students/staff from Osan American High School, officials from the Songtan District Office, Pyeongtaek City Hall officials, U.S. Air Force service members, and Korean citizens. "Both government officials and citizens were mutually cooperated in planting trees," said Mr. K. Y. S., Director of Construction and Forest Division of the Songtan District, Pyeongtaek City. "It is important to plant trees together and share common minds of how important trees are to us," said Mr. K. Y.S.. Arbor Day is a holiday celebrated all around the world in which individuals and groups are encouraged to plant and care for trees. In the United States, the holiday is celebrated every year on the last Friday in April but in South Korea, the holiday is celebrated on or around April 5. The holiday became public in Korea in April 2005, in an effort to restore the forests that had been ravaged by the Korean War.

French and Spanish students at OAHS are participating in the annual DODDS worldwide language proficiency test "STAMP." The STAMP (Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency) test is reported in terms that correlate with nationally recognized levels of proficiency as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. The tests is significant in that it assesses the students' reading ability by measuring how well the students read and comprehend actual texts written by native speakers of the language for natives speakers of the language. It also assesses the students' writing ability by measuring how well the students can write in real world situations. Finally, it assesses the students' speaking ability by measuring how well the students can speak about everyday situations. DODDS students in French, Spanish, German, Japanese, and Chinese are presently taking the STAMP test and Korean will be added next year. This is the second year the test has been administered at OAHS. Students in levels two and four are tested in reading, writing, and speaking using headsets and microphones. These proficiency ratings give DODDS data to evaluate the worldwide progress of language students. According to Ms. D.L., OAHS teacher, "This is also a beneficial tool for teachers who can use the data to monitor students' strengths and area that need improvement. The STAMP test is a welcome addition to the Foreign Language curriculum." When students were asked what they thought of the test, most responded that they actually enjoyed the test and the incorporation of technology.



Advanced Placement Exams are Just Around the Corner!

Osan American High School students are busily preparing for the important, upcoming AP examinations schedule to take place during the first two weeks of May 2009. This year at OAHS, all AP exams will be administered off campus at the Osan Air Base Community Center. Mr. R.L., the school counselor and AP Coordinator, will escort students to the Center. Each year, OAHS students know they can earn college credit and advanced placement courses stand out in the admissions process. In fact, OAHS students understand they may receive recognition by more than 90 percent of colleges in the United States and colleges in more than 60 other countries, which grant credit, advanced placement or both on the basis of AP Exam grades.

There are actually many reasons for OAHS students to take the rigorous AP courses. Some want to work toward a college experience that suits them and gives them the flexibility to get the most out of their high school and college years. Teachers and staff at OAHS are always reminding students that success in the OAHS AP courses demonstrates maturity and readiness for college. For admission purposes, it helps student show their willingness to take the most rigorous courses available to them and to emphasize their commitment to academic excellence. But to students, probably the most important reasons are that AP courses provide a head start on college-level work. It improves their writing skills and sharpens their problem-solving techniques. Also, AP courses help to develop the study habits necessary for tackling rigorous course work expected at the college level. Furthermore, they learn from some of the most skilled, dedicated, and inspiring teachers in the world!



Osan Air Base Brings the Weather to the Classroom

Captain G.C., Osan Air Base's key personnel in all areas dealing

with the weather, recently kept the OAHS Earth Science students captivated with his wit and charm, playing with words while delivering a highly informative lesson on various aspects of weather and how it affects life here in Korea. Capt. C. covered all aspects of weather, from local phenomena, to global systems affecting communications and activities. Using both basic and advanced terminology and a highly informative power point presentation, he kept students learning and having fun doing so. For example, along with weather related appropriate pictures, Capt. C. also used humor by slipping in a "beautiful Korean model" when talking about computer-generated weather models. Students were captivated by the pictures of weather stations showing all the gadgets which were explained according to function and need. The Osan students were very interactive and enjoyed his questions and answers session.

Capt. G.C. previously taught at the university level, and nowadays not only enjoys educating the public about weather concerns, but also serves as the school's PTSO president. According to Mr. J.C., OAHS Earth Science teacher, "Wow! If Capt. C. had another calling, it would be in teaching. He wasn't boring; he made weather interesting and the captivated students participated well. The military has terrific people who are excellent resources for teaching our students."





Student Transportation Office (STO) Parents Newsletter

1. The Osan Student Transportation Office (STO) is responsible for the safe and efficient transportation of students. Our Office is open 7:30 - 4:00 daily except on U.S. holidays. We are located in building 473, room 112. We also have a satellite office at USAG Camp Humphreys located in building 535, room 108 the hours are 7:30 - 4:30 (closed 12:00 – 1:00 for lunch). We solicit the assistance of parents for the conduct of their students while on the bus and at designated bus stops. Students in 2nd grade or below are to be dropped off and met by parents, guardians or designated representative at the bus stop. Osan Students not met at the bus stop will be returned to the elementary school office. Camp Humphreys students 2nd grade and below will be taken to Youth Services. Those in Kindergarten and below will be taken to the Child Development Center.

2. Security Attendants are assigned to daily commuting buses and will assist small children to secure their seatbelts and any one else needing help. They also monitor behavior of students while on the bus. Once bus doors are closed and is in motion only STO personnel may direct the bus to stop. This is for the safety for all involved. NOTE: PSCD and Sure Start students will be placed in car seats on the bus.

3. The STO is responsible for the discipline of students on school buses. The STO will notify parents upon receiving documented reports from Security Attendants for incidents occurring on their bus. Depending on the severity of the incident and number of incidents on file the STO can suspend bus riding privileges. Sus-

pensions can vary from 5 days to the remainder of the school year. All infractions are cumulative in nature.

4. The following four areas cover school bus infractions: (1) Unsafe behavior; this includes fighting, standing while bus is in motion, making excessive noise, pushing, shoving or tripping, and obstructing aisles, steps or seats. (2) Inappropriate behavior; this includes eating (including candy and chewing gum), drinking, littering the bus, abusive language, spitting, disrespect and failure to comply with Driver or Security Attendant directions. (3) Destructive behavior; this includes damaging government property and damaging other students' property. (4) Prohibited behavior: includes tampering with bus controls, interfering with the Driver and or emergency equipment. Please ask your students to comply with the requests of Security Attendants and Bus Drivers. Remember, riding the school bus is a privilege not a right. Obey the rules and maintain the privilege to ride. NOTE: Use of electronic devices is allowed if used with headphones.

5. Students registered with STO will be issued picture ID bus passes. Students must wear or carry their pass each day and show it to the Security Attendant as they enter the bus and or upon demand. Lost passes can be replaced at the STO.

6. Are you moving soon? Whether you are moving locally or back to the states, please inform the STO. If you have a change of address or new phone numbers provide them in the event we need to contact you. If you have students who ride the bus you must out-process at the STO. We require the return of bus passes at the time of out-processing.

7. In case of inclement weather watch AFN TV or listen to AFN Radio for spot announcements.

8. If you have questions concerning bus transportation or discipline, please con-

tact the Student Transportation Office at DSN 784-1827 or commercial at 031-661-1827. Additionally, if you have issues or concerns involving Security Attendants contact the STO. Please do not confront or interfere with Security Attendants performing of their duties.

Mr. T.L.G.
Student Transportation Specialist



The Hills Behind the Housing

Towers Are Off-Limits

Children are not to be playing on the hills behind the housing towers. we have had 4 injuries from children cutting themselves on the C-wire up there. Also, these hills are alarmed and they are setting off the alarms causing a police response.



Lost and Found

Items in the School

We have numerous lost and found articles, in the cafeteria. Please come and claim your items. If you have questions, contact the office @784-9096.



UPDATING PARENT/ STUDENT INFORMATION

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION!!
If you have extended or have a new letter of employment; or have moved or gotten new phone numbers; or your email address has changed, please give this information to the school. If you have time, just drop by the school to do a check on your student's information. We will be happy to help you keep the student information correct.



WE NEED YOU!

Please come by and fill out an application to add your name to our database for support jobs, i.e., substitute teacher, educational aide, secretary, and office support staff. We need you. Please stop by the office and complete an application **NOW**.



For The Monthly School Lunch Menu

<http://odin.aafes.com/nutrition/octhsmenu05.htm>

NEED HELP?

학교 신문을 보시고 질문이 있으시면 저희에게 문의하십시오. 자세히 답변해 드리겠습니다. 미스 김(784-9076), 미스터 권(784-9076).