

OSAN AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL

October 31, 2008
Issue#2

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

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**“Home of the
Cougars ”**

Principal's News



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.

It's hard to believe that it is already the end of the first quarter of the school year. During the past few months, there have been numerous successes at Osan American High School. Students are producing outstanding work in their classrooms and have been outstanding representatives of our school at Far East competitions.

Our Far East Journalism team racked up five medals during their three-day conference in Tokyo. Congratulations to C. B. for winning first place in sports writing, L. K. for her second place in beginning photography and third place in sports photography and H. S. for her second place in sports writing and third place in feature writing. S. H. and S. R. also represented Osan with their outstanding talent and enthusiasm.

Our sports teams this past season have all met with great success. The football team, cheerleaders, boys' and girls' volleyball teams, and cross country team have all given us something to be very proud of the past few months. This past season there was an article in the Stars & Stripes highlighting two of our volleyball players, N. S. and L. V.. Two of our boys' volleyball players, S. M. and D. A., were selected during the season on separate occasions as Stars & Stripes Athletes of the Week.

We will continue to encourage all of our students through the remainder of the school year to do their very best, to become the very best they are capable of becoming - - in the classroom, on the sports field, and in all other areas students choose to be involved.

Proud to be a Cougar!

Timothy J. Erickson, Principal
timothy.erickson@pac.dodea.edu

Important Dates:

OCTOBER

- 31 - Teacher Work day - No Students
 - 2000-23000 Halloween Dance
 - KAIAC - Volleyball - Boys@SFS and Girls@SAHS

NOVEMBER

- 1 - SAT and Subject Tests
- 3-7 - FAR East Tournaments -Football/ Cheerleading/Volleyball/Tennis/Cross Country
- 7 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - Teacher work day - no students
- 11 - Veteran's Day - No school
- 13 - PTSO Meeting
- 21 - Basketball/Cheerleading@DAHS
- 22 - Basketball/Cheerleading@SIS
 - Wrestling@OAHS
- 27 - Thanksgiving Holiday
- 28 - Recess Day - No school
- 29 - Basketball/Cheerleading@KIS
 - Wrestling@SAHS

DECEMBER

- 3 - Basketball/Cheerleading@TCIS
- 5 - Basketball/Cheerleading@TCIS
- 6 - Basketball/Cheerleading@YISS
 - Wrestling@DAHS
 - SAT & Subject Tests
- 10 - Basketball/Cheerleading@SAHS
 - Accelerated Withdrawal Date (Fall Semester)
- 11 - 1800-Band/Choir Concert
- 13 - Wrestling@SAHS
 - ACT and Writing
- 22 Dec - 2 Jan - Winter Recess - No School

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

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



Computer Servicing is Ready to Learn Laptops

After taking apart and reassembling PC's, the Computer Servicing Students are ready for the next, big challenge, laptop computers. However, we are in need of some old or discarded laptops. Since laptop computers are so much more difficult to disassemble and reassemble than PC's, we do not want to use anybody's good laptop as a guinea pig.

If you do donate a computer, please be sure that all personal information is removed from the hard drive, if possible.



AP TEAM Together Everyone Achieves More!

The Osan American High School Advanced Placement teachers attended a recent district-wide AP meeting at the DSO. The general purpose of the meeting was to provide valuable interaction opportunities for teachers within specific, similar content areas. More specifically, the meeting was intended to provide time away from school when teachers with similar interests could discuss their programs and best practices aspects of their AP teaching. These efforts are a result of the recommendations made by AP teachers of the DoDEA worldwide AP task group in the late spring of SY0708.

During the similar job discussion session, teachers participating in groups charted their conversations over the discussion period and then, posted and presented their observations and ideas on poster charts. AP teachers discussed both similarities and differences that the participants felt existed between their discussions and those of other groups. Teachers were also given the opportunity to study the charts of their colleagues and engage in beneficial collegial discussion with the guidance and support of Dr. R. S. of the DSO.

A wide range of AP related issues came under review and examination. AP Exam results were analyzed and apparent trends over the past several years were identified and discussed. Other items of discussion included excessive student absences, time of day scheduling concerns, weighted grades, providing a rigorous curriculum and student preparation prior to course participation. A key point of discussion and agreement was the need for more AP professional development, specifically the need for a minimum of every three years in attending a College Board sanctioned AP Institute.

According to Mrs. L. C., OAHS AP Biology teacher, "I felt the AP meeting was very useful, especially as an AP teacher who is teaching this subject for the first time. Not only was I able to meet the other AP teachers in my curricular area, we got the chance to discuss what the roadblocks are for teaching AP courses and possible solutions. I feel much more confident in teaching my course knowing that I have a support group ready to help with any number of issues and that I'm not the only one going through these same issues."



OAHS Model United Nations Students March in Parade

The Osan American High School Model United Nations program participants recently marched in the Pyeongtaek City / Songtan Chamber of Commerce "2008 Korean American Friendship Festival Parade." This annual event has grown dramatically over the past few years with a wide range of support from the local Korean community, the Osan Air Base military members, and various social and educational organizations. The OAHS MUN students proudly represented their school in this event that also serves as a valuable fund raising opportunity for other school organizations and sports.

The veteran and new MUN participants included S.H., M.N., A.T., A.F., H.C., N.A., A.L., D.F., C.P., and S.R.. The MUN students have also taken on a responsibility for opening the school's monthly PTSO meetings by leading a pledge of allegiance to the US flag. With the annual MUN Far East Conference in sight, the OAHS MUN students have contacted the embassies of a number of foreign nations as they gather research on which position papers and discussion of significant issues will be produced.



OAHS English Camp 2008

Twenty five students from eight schools of the Pyeongtaek City Board of Education participated in the OAHS English Camp held during October 21 - 24, 2008. This annual event is a key part of the US / ROK Good Neighbor Program for Osan Air Base. The goal of this youth outreach program is to introduce 10th grade Korean students to the U.S. military forces stationed in the Republic of Korea, including families and our mission of contributing to the defense of the country. From an academic perspective, it is a terrific opportunity for the students to practice the English they learn in their Korean schools while learning more about American culture.

OAHS Principal Timothy Erickson and numerous OAHS students served as hosts for the visiting students who participated in series of organized, interactive academic and extra-curricular activities at school and on tours around the base with canine demonstrations and facilities inspections such as the aero club, aircraft static display, flight simulator, etc... A mission briefing by Lt. M.S. provided a highly informative introduction to the Camp's objectives while an OAHS English teacher provided academic worksheets to improve the participants' English vocabulary.

This year's program was a tremendous success with wide-ranging 51st Fighter Wing command support, Korean community public affairs support, and outstanding efforts of the OAHS students and staff. The OAHS JROTC cadets and their sponsors took the lead in providing student support and in serving during the presentation of the colors at the

Camp's Orientation and Graduation ceremony. The OAHS JROTC cadets also gave terrific performances of both countries national anthems and special after-school drill practice exercises. In addition, the OAHS Foreign Language /ESL program graciously invited the visiting students to a wonderful culture dinner at the school as part of their efforts in the Hispanic Heritage Month festivities.

A formal graduation ceremony was held on Friday, October 24th at the high school auditorium. Several officials representing the Korean community from the Pyeongtaek City Hall, the Pyeongtaek Board of Education, and the public affairs office of the Good Neighbor Program attended the program. Osan Air Base Vice Wing Commander Col. M. delivered the commencement address and inspired everyone with encouraging words of freedom of choice. The visiting students received special recognition from Master Staff Sargent O.F., various awards and certificates of graduation. The ceremony ended with both parents and students attending a reception and receiving gifts from sponsoring organizations.

Perhaps, the highlight of the program for the visiting Korean students was the home-stays with our military and civilian families. Different foods and cultural nuances were both interesting and at times challenging. Yet, students were not the only beneficiaries of the program. According to host parents, D. and L.W., "I just wanted to say what a delight it has been to host our two Korean students. They were extremely polite and excited to participate in everything that we did. Their desire to learn and interact was greatly appreciated. We will have fond memories of their time here. Thank you for organizing this very worthwhile program."



OAHS Hispanic Heritage Festival

Ms. D.L. and Mr. M.H., two foreign language teachers at Osan American High School, provided guidance and support to over 160 students who participated in a number of both academic and extra-curricular activities in honor of America's Hispanic heritage. OAHS staff, administration, students and parents worked together to bring recognition and awareness of this rich cultural aspect of who we are as a nation of immigrants.

Everyone enjoyed a bountiful feast of various Hispanic dishes at an evening "Hispanic Café" where music, dance and laughter filled the high school's cafeteria area. Highly talented adults from the air base demonstrated their expertise in salsa and other "saucy" moves on the dance floor. Throughout the evening, one could hear students and adults practicing their conversational Spanish within a festive environment that in many ways epitomizes the Hispanic culture. This annual event continues to grow each year as the campus and military communities strive to bring classroom experiences into real life situations. Adios!



Osan's JROTC Takes the Lead

In ongoing efforts toward intercultural and local community service, the JROTC KO-951 played an integral role in welcoming twenty-five visiting Korean students to the OAHS campus during the recent Good Neighbor English Camp 2008. Their outstanding Color Guard posted flags and provided a weapons display and the first KO-951 Choir sang for the first time both the Korean and American national anthems to audiences. The visiting Korean students also participated in extensive drill instructions and a mini-competition, which included a tap-down leaving the last student with the best drill skills standing. Master Sgt. Senior O.F. proudly presented two of the Korean nationals, visiting students, Top Performer certificates for their efforts in drill exercises at OAHS. According to G.L.G-F, Major (Ret.) SASI, AFJROTC KO-951, "This was a truly rewarding experience for all participants involved."



Cougar's Tale Yearbook

Cougar's Tale, the school's official yearbook is currently on sale for \$50. Checks payable to the OAHS School Activity Fund may be given to Mrs. C. in Room A202 before and after school or mailed to P.C., Osan American High School, Unit 2037, APO AP 96278-0005. Remember that yearbooks are pre-purchased; those who do not order yearbooks will not have the opportunity to purchase books when they arrive in May.

Senior Only Yearbooks

Time is running out on the low price of \$20.09 for the senior only yearbook. Purchase by Friday, 31 Oct and pay only \$20.09. Next week, the price jumps to \$25.00.



Tardy Policy and Procedures

If a student reports to class without an excuse written by the attendance clerk, an administrator, or a teacher, then the late entry into class will be recorded as a TARDY. Tardiness to class is unacceptable because it interrupts and is disruptive to the education process.

Cumulative for the Quarter:

- 1st TARDY= student warning
- 2nd TARDY= parent notification (Attendance Clerk)
- 3rd TARDY=1 hour detention
- 4th TARDY= 2 hour detention
- 5th TARDY= 1 hour work detail
- 6th TARDY = 2 hour work detail
- 7th TARDY= Saturday work detail
- 8th TARDY= EXCESSIVE TARDIES- Suspension

Truancy Policy and Procedures

Truancy is the failure to attend a scheduled class or classes without proper notification from parents or guardians and is in violation of DoDDS attendance policy. Truancies are unexcused absences and will result in a "0" for all work missed, or due, during the truancy period. The OAHS truant policy is:

Truancy #1- Parent contact and school work detail equal to the amount of time truant.

Truancy #2- Parent contact, school work detail, parent-student-administrator conference.

Truancy #3 or more – Suspension (progressive), referred to counseling, and command notification.

NURSE'S CORNER



No Shots, No School, No Kidding!

The DODDS Pacific Area office and District Superintendent's office are making it clear that all students must be 100% complete on their immunizations. The same message has also come from the Osan AB Public Health Office who audits our immunization records. The school nurse is required to submit an Immunization Non-Compliance Form every month. We have not yet reached 100% compliance but are making progress. The consequence for non-compliance has come from DODDS....dis-enrollment! OAHS did not invent this word and it is not a negotiable consequence since it has been directed by the highest level administrators.

Anyone can take their immunizations records with them to the Osan Immunization Clinic and get their immunizations. It does not matter whether or not you are from Humphreys or Osan, no appointment is needed. Just take your records with you.



Immunization Helps

- Consolidate all of your immunizations into one immunization booklet. The Immunization clinic can do this for you.
- Do NOT pack your immunization records in a box when you PCS. Keep them with the other important things such as your passports, orders, and other legal papers. There no school in which you can enroll your student without immunization records; neither DODDS, CONUS Public, nor private schools.
- Do NOT depend on the school or the immunization clinic to manage your immunization records. Many times the health records are separate from the educational records and may not be available to be sent if the nurse is on summer vacation. Sometimes computer problems can dump all the information. Keep your own hard copy with you at all times!
- When your child needs additional immunizations in a series, please mark your own calendar or planner to take care of it on time. Please do not put it off until you receive a disenrollment notice.
- If you have no immunizations records at all, you will be required to restart all of the series. There is no harm in repeating and your child will get a booster of immunity but it is not the best use of your time or the immunization resources.
- The Tb skin test is counted in immunizations, although it is really a test of exposure than prevention. However, like every other test, it is not complete until the results are read and recorded.

Flu Vaccine is now available

The public health office is urging everyone to get the flu vaccine NOW. For anyone between the ages of 2 -49, with no chronic health problems, the Flu-Mist (intra-nasal vaccine) will be given. The injectable vaccine is also available. This is an inactivated influenza vaccine that will not make anyone ill. Besides protecting against some of the severe influenza strains, there is a thought that there is some protection for everyone from a serious Avian Influenza outbreak. If a non-immunized person gets a Type A influenza and is also exposed to Avian flu, there is a concern that the influenza will mutate into a whole new organism that we have no way of responding to at this time.

Since no one wants to have a week of fever and chills, severe muscle aches and pains, and severe respiratory difficulties, get your Influenza Vaccination now!!

Winter Safety Tips

From the Student Transportation Office

Bus Safety. As we approach the winter months it is important to remember a few additional safety items. As the hours of daylight decrease the night time darkness increases. Visibility may be affected by darkness, rain, snow, fog and other inclement conditions. It is significant that students be at their designated bus stops on time. Also as temperatures drop icy conditions will occur. These conditions may exist on roadways, bus stops, bus steps etc. Please be alert to the condition changes as the winter months approach.

Bus Delays. Not only will winter bring a change in weather conditions it also increases the chances for bus delays.

Remember bus delays require parents/students to adjust the times they assemble at their designated pickup locations. A two hour bus delay means you adjust your time by two hours. Example: Normal departure time is 0730 the Adjusted two hour delayed departure time will be 0930. Students need to be in place before the 0930 departure time. Please remind students to promptly proceed to their buses, get seated and secure their seatbelts for departure.

Remember: There is no eating or drinking on the school buses. The use of electronic devices is prohibited unless used with headphones.

For additional information contact the Osan Student Transportation Office at DSN 784-1827 or commercial at 031-661-1827. Our Camp Humphrey's Office extension is DSN 753-3941 or commercial 031-690-3941. Our office hours are 7:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.



Child Find

Child Find is an outreach program that actively seeks to locate and identify children and youth from birth through age twenty-one years, who may have developmental delays or educational disabilities and may be in need of special education and related services. You can help your child whom you suspect may have special needs by contacting your local DoDDS School. Your inquiry will be treated with the utmost sensitivity and confidentiality. Through your efforts, you can help your child develop to his/her fullest potential.

For information at the Middle/High School contact R.L., Guidance Counselor, R.B. or K.H., Special Education Teacher.



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**.



Important Attachment

System-wide Assessment Calendar For SY 08-09



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).