



# The Silverstreak Connection

December/January, 2019

Osakis, Minnesota

## Lions Peace Poster Contest Winners

The Lions International Peace Poster Contest is an international contest that encourages children ages 11-13 to creatively express what peace means to them. The 2018-19 contest theme is "Kindness Matters." The contest allows students to share their unique image of peace with others, so that we may all have greater international understanding. As in years past, the Osakis Lions Club coordinated this year's contest with art teacher Gretchen Resley and world cultures teacher Darwin Johnson.

First-place winner Charlee Thieschafer received \$50; runner-up Mazin Al-ameri received \$30; and third-place winner Greta Faber received \$20. Many thanks to the Lions for providing this opportunity to our students each year!



The September & October Win the Day winners are Laney Kalpin and Ruth Flaten

## Osakis FFA Chapter Busy and Successful!

On Wednesday, September 26, Osakis FFA members attended the Regions 2 Field Day at the Alexandria Shooting Park. The members were split into teams participating in orienteering, trap shooting, and archery. All participants did very well and will only continue to improve in the future. A huge thank you goes out to Mr. Hunter for helping score the archery contest that day.

On Wednesday, October 10, the U of M Fall Invitational was held at the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities campus. Osakis FFA had a general livestock team and a dairy evaluation team. They competed with teams from all over the state. The dairy judging team earned an impressive 12th place out of 50+ teams competing. All of the members that competed received a gold, silver, or bronze rating, and for many of them, it was their first experience judging.

Overall it has been a great start to the year and we are looking forward to the events in the upcoming year. The famous FFA fruit sales just wrapped up and we are looking at a delivery date in mid-December. Stay tuned for that! Please feel free to 'like' our Facebook page to keep updated on what is happening in the OHS FFA Chapter!



## Superintendent's Message

*Randal Bergquist*



As educators we understand the importance for students to not only focus on academics but also participate in extra-curricular activities. As a parent and school administrator, I encourage kids to try different activities, whether it be sports, music, speech, theatre, or whatever they might be interested in. The more opportunities students

take part in, the more likely they are to find their niche. I myself appreciate a good game, a relaxing music concert, and a wonderful theatre production.

At Osakis Public School, like many other schools across Minnesota, we want to encourage and promote good sportsmanship for all students, fans, supporters, and opponents of Osakis Silverstreaks activities. The Osakis School Board, administration, and staff recognize the significant value of school activities to the participants, to the student body, and to the community. We would like to share with you some expectations we have in our school regarding any extra-curricular activity you may attend.

1. The behavior of all Osakis students, staff, and spectators is expected to be a positive reflection of themselves, our school, and the community.
2. The standards of courtesy, fair play, and good sportsmanship should be evident at all times.
3. Audiences should treat performers and speakers with respect and courtesy and shall refrain from inappropriate noise or any activity that might distract from the performance or presentation.
4. Teams, officials, coaches and participants should be treated with respect by spectators, coaches, and players alike.
5. Spectators, participants, and coaches should accept and respect the decisions made by officials.
6. Spectators, participants, and coaches are expected to support the activity enthusiastically but refrain from disparaging remarks, put-downs, yells, signs, booing, or any other action that would be demeaning, disrespectful, or discouraging.
7. All other school policies or MSHSL rules apply when at school activities and when on school property.

The Minnesota State High School League has established minimal behavior expectations for regular and post-season tournament competitions. You can see their comprehensive list of nine bulleted items on their website at <https://www.mshsl.org>.

We often take a little bit of time at the start of an event to share some words about good sportsmanship. Sometimes, we have asked athletes to read a statement or make comments about positive behaviors as well. Although it may take a few extra

moments, we think the reminders of good sportsmanship are worth the investment of time. Often, the program and roster lists will also make reference to sportsmanship standards, expectations of good behavior or fair play, or other positive statements. Again, the continual reminder that we are dealing with young student competitors in any of our events is good to keep in mind.

Our Activities Director, Brad Hoffarth, has been making a point of including sportsmanship issues within his presentations to students and coaches/advisors as we begin each activity and season. These ideas are also reinforced by the coaches/advisors during the course of the season.

The bottom line is this: Parents, educational staff, coaches/advisors, and the community need to work together to create a positive environment for our students and activities, whether it be on the field, court, stage, or classroom.

### Asset Building Continues at Osakis Public School



**Eva Moore** has chosen to recognize Julie Larson as a community Asset Builder. Julie builds assets in students at school, youth group, customers at Tip Top, and everyone else who is around her fun energy; they all seem happy because of Julie. Julie is building Asset #18 in others, which is Religious Community. What this means is she inspires a young person to spend one or more hours per week

in activities in a religious institution. Eva says, "She is building this asset by spreading her love for the Lord. She is a great example of what is like to be a Christian: positive, happy, joyful, and caring. She has a loving heart and gives others a sense of purpose. This asset is important in helping youth succeed because she gives students a sense of purpose. Julie sets a great example for me how I'd like to treat others. She honestly loves everyone and truly cares about them. She will help youth overall get on the right path in life. She will lead others to a strong faith and relationship with God, just like she did for me! Julie is also building Asset #26, which is Caring. This means she places a high value on helping others. Julie cares, like *really* cares. She has a huge heart. I can tell her any situation going on in my life and she will congratulate me or pick me up, and she gives me ways to handle the situation. One way I can tell she truly cares is anybody can tell her something and she'll remember... which to me means she was listening. This is important in helping youth succeed because she is always there to listen which keeps us from holding back feelings. She gives youth someone to trust and feel safe with. She sets that example of how you want to be - encouraging, positive, loving, and intentional. She helps youth succeed because it impacts the way youth will treat others now and in the future."

*cont., page 7*



## Secondary Update

*Tim Roggenbuck, Secondary Principal*



It is that time again when the snowy weather starts to become a factor for school. Below is a list of our radio and television station we notify for weather or emergencies:

Skylert  
Osakis Facebook page  
Osakis School Webpage  
1400 AM KEYL-Long Prairie  
92.3 FM or 1490 AM KXRA-Alexandria  
100.7 FM KIKV-Alexandria

103.9 FM KBHL-Osakis  
107.1 FM KMGK -Glenwood  
Channel 4 WCCO TV  
Channel 11 KARE TV  
Channel 5 KSTP T  
Channel 9 FOX TV

I hope everyone has an opportunity to attend our concerts. On December 10 at 7:00 p.m., the 7th - 12th grade choir students will perform, and on December 17 at 7:00 p.m., the 7th - 12th grade band students will perform. Christmas time is always a time for family and friends. I hope everyone has an enjoyable time at Christmas and a happy New Year.

Students are dismissed on December 21 at 1:00 p.m. The winter break is from December 22 through January 2; school resumes January 3. The first semester will be ending on January 18. The report cards will be on skyward, but if you want them mailed to your home, contact the high school office.

Starting in the month of December and continuing into January, we will start the registering process for the next school year. The process of registering for next year involves updating our registration booklet. The students do a pre-registration which will determine which classes we will offer for the next year. The importance of the students' pre-registration is that it helps direct what courses are offered. From that, the master schedule is built. It is very important for the students to participate so we can figure out what classes the students are interested in, and then we will create next year's schedule. Don't forget to take advantage of the parent portal for your student. It is good way to keep up with how your student is doing in their classes. If you are having any questions on how to access the parent portal, contact the school and we will get you setup.

Social networking is an ongoing concern for school. Social network sites, other digital platforms (including cell phones) and distribution mechanisms that facilitate student communication with other students are considered "social networking" platforms. Participation in such networks has both positive appeal and potentially negative consequences. It is important the Osakis students be aware of these consequences and exercise appropriate caution if they choose to participate. Things students should avoid:

1. Derogatory language or remarks about our students, teammates, school personnel and our community at-large, as well as teachers or coaches, student-athletes, administrators or representatives of other schools.
2. Demeaning statements about or threats to any third party. Don't respond to these.

3. Distribution and possession of unauthorized videos and photos or statements depicting violence; hazing; sexual harassment and content; vandalism, stalking; underage drinking, selling, possessing, or using controlled substances; or any other inappropriate behaviors.
4. Creating a serious danger to the safety of another person or making a credible threat of serious physical or emotional injury to another person.
5. Indicating knowledge of an unreported felonies, crimes, thefts or damage to property or unethical behavior.
6. Indicating knowledge of an unreported school or team violation, regardless if the violation was unintentional or intentional.

One of the biggest lessons social network users can learn is that anything you post online enters the public record. You never know who may be looking and when. Students, parents and guardians, any student in violation of said conduct is subject to consequences to be determined by the administration, principal and/or activities director. The Minnesota State High School League Student Code of Responsibilities. Bylaw 206.00 is applicable and relevant in all student-related issues and concerns in such matters. Please be careful when using social networking sites.

In closing, I continue to extend an invitation to attend our school's events. Thank you for your continuing support at school dealing with your child's education endeavors. We appreciate the parents' and community's support for all our students.

## Elementary Update

*Shad Schmidt, Elem. Principal*



"Winter Wonderland"

As we get into the holidays and winter please be mindful of the following: Be on the lookout for school-related weather announcements from Skylert, have your students prepared for the weather with proper outdoor outerwear, and find fun educational indoor activities for your family to enjoy together.

All of our grades K - 6 have a recess break every day. Recess may be in the gyms or outside. When our temperatures reach -10 real feel, we do not go outside for recess or allow our safety patrol outside. When this occurs, our students have recess in the gyms.

Just a reminder that school is out early on December 21 for the holidays. Students are dismissed at 1:00 that day. School will be back in session on January 3, 2019. Please enjoy the holidays!

Thank you for bringing your child to our school!

## MENTAL HEALTH

*Missy Bergquist, Karen (Kamrowski) Olson and Laura Radtke*



*Missy Bergquist*  
Guidance Counselor



*Karen (Kamrowski) Olson*  
Social Worker



*Laura Radtke*  
Psychologist

The mental health team at Osakis School consists of the following:

Missy Bergquist- Guidance Counselor

320-859-2191 x1304 mbergquist@osakis.k12.mn.us

Karen (Kamrowski) Olson- Social Worker

320-859-2191 x1215 kkamrowski@osakis.k12.mn.us

Laura Radtke- Psychologist

320-859-2191 x1218 lrادتke@osakis.k12.mn.us

### SUICIDE PREVENTION

#### Please read: Important!!

The National Association of Mental Illness identifies that between 38,000 and 43,000 people complete suicide a year in the United States. This article is being written in January, the number one month during the year in which suicides are completed. As a district and region, we are not untouched by this. Regionally, there were so many suicides between October of 2016 and March of 2017 that a suicide awareness committee was formed involving school personnel, police, funeral personnel, county social workers, interested community members, etc.

Depression and suicidal ideations are prevalent, and as a mental health team, we see many students at risk for suicide and we are doing everything we can for prevention. People experiencing suicidal ideations need help quickly. Although, people may experience suicidal ideations chronically, the actual decision to kill oneself is usually very impulsive and within a 10 minute window. Never leave somebody alone that you believe is actively suicidal.

*What are the suicide clues and warning signs?*

#### Verbal cues

- "I have decided to kill myself"
- "I wish I were dead"
- "I've decided to end it all"
- "If \_\_\_\_\_ does not happen, I'll kill myself"
- "I'm tired of life, I just cannot go on"
- "My family would be better off without me"
- "Who cares if I am dead anyway?"
- "I just want out"
- "I won't be along much longer"
- "Soon you won't have to worry about me"

#### Behavioral Cues

- A previous suicide attempt
- Acquiring a gun/knives, stockpiling pills
- Putting personal affairs in order
- Giving away things
- Drug or alcohol abuse

- Sudden mood lift (note- mood will lift as a decision has been made)
- Searching online for ways to kill self

#### Situational cues

- Getting in trouble in school
- Loss of relationship
- Experiencing a death
- Diagnosis of illness
- Severe punishment

If your child attempts suicide, self-harms, or talks about suicide or wanting to die, it is imperative they get help. An attempt or talk of suicide with a plan or a time frame necessitates getting help with immediacy. As parents, there is immediate help available for you and your child.

- Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273 TALK (8255) [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org)
- 1-800-NAMI-HELPS [www.namihelps.org](http://www.namihelps.org)
- Region 4 South Crisis Team 1-701-364-0431 (in some counties will come to your home, otherwise bring child to ER) Free service
- Text 741741 for trained crisis counselor
- If active suicide attempt has been made, bring to emergency room, call police, or call 911
- Emergency Room
- Contact local police
- If not imminent but as a parent you are concerned, please contact someone on the school mental health team. We will check on your child and complete a safety plan. Please also contact the mental health team if you have needed to utilize resources for suicidal ideations or self-harm for your child. We want to be able to help and to monitor your child.

*What happens if we believe a student is suicidal in school?*

We usually learn of a student being potentially suicidal through parents, teachers, or other students. Students may make a comment to another student or a teacher, or may post something on social media (which we become aware of through other students). Once we learn a student may potentially be suicidal, we respond as a team with immediacy. Often, two of us will meet with the student together to make sure we have not missed any steps. If the student is experiencing any ideations or thoughts of harm, parents will be contacted. If the student has a specific plan, has made a recent attempt, or in any way does not seem safe, we will contact parents right away. A staff will remain with the student until safety can be confirmed. We may ask parents to come and get their child. We will then provide suggestions and services to parents to help keep your child safe.

*What are the district's suicidal preventative measures?*

- Mental Health staff present on depression, suicide, and suicide prevention to all 7th and 10th graders each year. Students are learning to refer friends and are even referring themselves.
- All 7th and 10th grade students are screened for depression through a questionnaire every year. Students with elevated scores are met with and further screened by mental health staff.
- Teachers receive mental health training and suicidal prevention strategies
- Mental health staff respond with immediacy to student crisis
- Mental health staff collaborate with outside mental health providers
- Mental health staff complete safety plans with students
- Students are provided counseling and mental health therapy in school. **Please remember: depression is very treatable.**

# Counselor's Corner

*Melissa Bergquist*



## Sophomore Sneak-A-Peek

All 10th grade students will be attending the annual Sneak-a-Peek at Alexandria Technical & Community College on Tuesday, January 8. This day will involve opportunities for students to explore two career areas of their choice by experiencing a class along with other area high school students and college instructors. Topics include the following:

carpentry, computers, communication art & design, diesel mechanics, concrete masonry, mechatronics, health & fitness, law enforcement, paralegal, machine tool technology, marketing and business, interior design, and medical laboratory technician. We will take a school bus from Osakis leaving at 8:45 a.m. and return before the end of the school day. Lunch is provided.

## Freshman Expo

All 9th grade students will be attending the Freshman Career Expo at Alexandria High School on Thursday, January 24. This day will begin with a motivational speaker, Tyler Geyen, a local dentist from Alexandria. Students will then have opportunities to explore two career areas of their choice in areas of engineering, law enforcement, banking/finance, nursing, education, orthopedics and sports medicine, natural resources, graphic design, agriculture, web design, communications, and many more. There will also be professionals from all career areas in the gym and students are able to learn more about what each of them does. Lunch is provided.

## The ACT Test for Juniors in April 2019

Attention all Osakis juniors and parents...a letter will be sent home in the next few weeks regarding the **optional** ACT Test that is being offered to all juniors across the state of Minnesota during the school day on **Tuesday, April 2, 2019**. This is not a requirement for graduation, but it is an opportunity for your student to take the ACT **free of charge funded by the Osakis School District**. The ACT is used for college admission and placement as well as used in qualifying for scholarships at many colleges. If your student will be taking the test, please return the form sent in the letter to the high school office by **Friday, December 14, 2018**.

All registration for this test will be done during school – you do not need to register your student for this ACT test. Please encourage your child to use the ACT prep information by visiting <http://www.actstudent.org/> or <http://www.actstudent.org/testprep/>.

## Tis the Season for Applications...

Whether just beginning the process or in the thick of college applications, your teenager needs to be well informed. Keeping track of application deadlines is perhaps one of the most important considerations.

As you may already know, there are several types of college application choices today. Applying to one college at a time is always an option. However, this approach can be time consuming and costly. Students who wish to apply to a variety of colleges may want to consider using the Common Application. The Common Application is a standardized, one-size-fits-all form accepted by nearly 400 colleges. Talk to Mrs. Bergquist for more information.

If your student has his or her heart 100% set on one college and meets the college's selection criteria, he or she may wish to see if that school offers an early decision program. By applying for early decision, your student is telling that college it is his or her top choice. Usually, this type of application is due in November or December (as opposed to January for regular admissions), and admission decisions are usually made by the end of December.

Encourage your teenager to take his or her time when applying for college. Just like applying for a job, attention to detail will set your student apart from the pack and help avoid delays and added stress. Caution your student against:

1. Misspelling words and making grammatical errors
2. Filling out an online application, but then not submitting it
3. Forgetting to pay the fee if applicable
4. Avoiding incorrect answers due to misreading the instructions
5. Listing extracurricular activities that don't meet the definition
6. Giving his or her high school counselor/teachers too little time to meet college deadlines
7. Writing illegibly
8. Forgetting to check email accounts for college responses and messages
9. Asking someone else to fill out the application or write the essay

As with all good planning, encourage your teenager to build some extra time into the overall process. Allowing a little extra time will make the journey a little smoother and calmer during a very busy period in your teenager's life.

## Financial Aid

If your student is planning to attend college next fall, there is still time to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. Information from the FAFSA is used to determine eligibility for the federal student aid programs such as grants, loans and work-study.

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the tool for unlocking all kinds of financial aid, became available October 1 for the 2019 – 2020 school year. Fill it out and submit it as soon as possible because aid is handed out on a first-come, first-serve basis. Visit the official FAFSA website at [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov) for the online form and a list of what you need to complete it. (You can also get the FAFSA from a college financial aid office, from a local public library, or from the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID - 1-800-433-3243).
- Use the same web site to apply for a FSA ID. The FSA ID, made up of a username and password, is used to access certain U.S. Department of Education websites. Your FSA ID is used to confirm your identity when accessing your financial aid information and electronically signing your federal student aid documents.
- Research the different kinds of aid that are available. Know the differences between gift aid (scholarships and grants), private and federal loans, and need- and merit-based aid.
- Deadlines for state financial aid vary. Check the FAFSA site for your state's deadline.
- Don't be fooled by services offering "guaranteed" scholarships for a fee. Sadly, student aid is subject to scammers.
- If your student isn't a senior yet, use the FAFSA4caster, also at the [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov) website to get a jump on financial planning for college.

Make sure you use the [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov) site to fill out the FAFSA. Do not use a site that ends in anything other than .gov (Department of Education's site) extension. Commercial sites such as [www.fafsa.com](http://www.fafsa.com), or [www.sfas.com](http://www.sfas.com) are **NOT** official sites and often are money-making scams! Also, don't be fooled by services offering "guaranteed" scholarships for a fee.



## Holiday Choir Concert

Monday, December 10  
7:00 p.m.

Osakis Fine Arts Auditorium

## Holiday Band Concert

Monday,  
December 17

7:00 p.m.

Osakis Fine Arts Auditorium

### 2018-19 Grades K-12 Music Department Performance Dates

#### Dec.

3	Gr. 4-6 Holiday Concert	1:45 & 7:00
6	Pep BBB	7:00
10	Choir Concert	7:00
12	Gr. K-3 Holiday Concert	1:45 & 7:00
13	Pep GBB	7:00
14	Pep BBB	7:00
17	Band concert	7:00

#### Jan.

4	Pep BBB	7:00
8	Pep GBB	7:00
10	Pep BBB	7:00

#### Feb.

1	Pep GBB	7:00
19	Pep BBB	7:00
21	Pep GBB	7:00
28	Pep GBB - high seed	TBD

#### March

2	Pep GBB - St. John's	TBD
5	Pep GBB St. John's	TBD
7	Pep BBB high seed	TBD
8	Pep GBB - St. Cloud	TBD
9	Pep BBB - Concordia	TBD
12	Pep BBB - Concordia	TBD
15	Pep BBB - Concordia	TBD
20	Band Contest - Battle Lake	All Day
27	Sr. Choir Large Grp Contest B.L.	All Day

#### April

5 or 6	UMM Jazz Festival - TBD	All Day
10	Solo & Ens. Band/Choir - Ashby	All Day
15	Spring Choir Concert	7:00
16	Band Concert	7:00

#### May

2	Starry Night	7:00
4	State Music Contest - Fergus Falls	All Day
6	Band Concert	7:00
7	ES Band Concert & 4th grade	7:00
22	Elem. Gr 5-6 Musical	1:45 & 7:00
24	Graduation	7:00
27	Memorial Day Parade/Program	10:00

#### June

23	Osakis Festival Parade	1:00
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## High School Activities

*Brad Hoffarth, Activities Director*



### That “One Coach”

(Quoted excerpts from an article written by Jody Redman, Associate Director of the MSHSL)

“Sports are a valued part of our school communities. We value sports because we believe students are positively impacted through participation. Does the impact exist in the games, the skills, the wins or is it the impact the result of something, or more importantly, someone else?”

“Coaches have an incredible opportunity to positively impact students. Close your eyes for a moment and think back - who was the ‘One Coach’ that positively impacted you? What fundamental need did this coach meet in your life? Did they motivate you? Did they inspire you?”

I was fortunate to grow up in a caring community that placed a high value on participation in school activities. It was during that time that I got to be around a number of caring, well-intentioned adults that were also coaches. I did not realize it until many years later, but these people often sacrificed family time or opportunities for personal hobbies to be at practice or events with their team. They unselfishly gave their time to the youth of the community because at some point someone did the same for them. Choosing that “One Coach” was not easy for me because I had multiple coaches that helped me learn valuable life lessons.

My high school wrestling coach helped reinforce the value of education. I was raised in a family of hard working individuals that, for various reasons, did not have the opportunity to go to college. It was during my senior year of high school that Coach Maury Meyer asked me what I was going to do after high school. I had applied to a few colleges but I really did not know what I wanted to do once I graduated. He told me that I was going to start by going to college and that I would figure it out from there. While attending St. Cloud State University, I took a variety of courses, including an education class. During this class I realized that I liked working with children and saw it as an opportunity to give back, much like my teachers and coaches did for me. Mr. Meyer continued to mentor me after high school by giving me a chance to coach wrestling at various levels on his staff. His belief in me helped me develop the self-confidence and people skills that have been invaluable to me.

My high school baseball coach taught me that hard work and perseverance pay off. I was never the most talented baseball player, but I was able to be a part of a very successful team. This meant learning to accept my role on the team and making the most of my opportunities when I got in the game. Coach Bill Krogman left a lifelong lasting impression on me when he told me after my last baseball game that he wanted his son to grow up to be like me. This was meaningful because I was not the best baseball player. It must have meant that he saw character traits

in me that extended beyond baseball. His comment has helped teach me to look beyond the points scored or games won.

The Osakis community is similar to my personal experience in many ways. Our community understands that it is important to be involved in school-based activities. These activities provide our students with opportunities to be around caring adults who could positively impact them for a lifetime. Our coaches continue to use education based coaching techniques in an effort to help develop well-rounded students. I encourage our student athletes to be involved in multiple activities during their time at Osakis High School. It will provide them with the opportunity to work with a variety of adults with diverse strengths and personalities. Chances are that our students will leave our school with more than that “One Coach.”

### Asset Builders (cont., from page 2)

**Owinn Cimbura** declares that his Asset Builder is Sierra Cimbura, an adult who builds assets in her children and the children she works with. She is a parent and social worker. The first asset she builds is Asset #26, which is Caring. It states that youth places high values in helping others. Owinn states, “She is building it by caring about others so then they learn how



to care back. She is caring even when others aren’t. She cares about everyone. This asset helps youth because caring youth are less likely to get in trouble with other kids. Kids who care don’t usually abuse substances. The second asset is Asset #1, which is family support. It states that family life provides high values of care and support. She builds this asset by supporting her family. She helps us when we need her. I believe she is important to helping me succeed. Kids need support or they feel unwanted.”



**Scotty Ellefson** identified that his Asset Builder is his mom, Pam Ellefson. He explains, “She builds assets in my two older sisters, my younger brother, and the rest of my family. Assets that my mom builds are Asset #1 and Asset #11. Asset #1 is Family Support: Family life provides high-levels of love and support. My mom builds this asset

by helping me with my homework when I need it. She also cheers me on in school activities like archery and golf. The way that this helps youth succeed is by helping kids get through struggles in life. Your family and most importantly your parents should always be there for you. The second asset is Family Boundaries: Family has clear rules and consequences and monitors the young person’s whereabouts. She builds this by telling my brother and me to tell her where we are at all times. All in all, she wants us to be safe at all times. This helps youth succeed so kids don’t get into bad stuff like drugs and alcohol.”

Thank you, Asset Builders, and keep up the good work!

## Tech Corner

### *Integrationist - Stan Moore*



Teachers and Paras Explore for Professional Development

On November 5, a district staff development day, our staff members got an opportunity to take their understanding of technology to another level. Coming up with effective PD is so important since a teacher's time is valuable. Whatever gets covered needs to be as effective as possible to everyone. This year for our technology PD, the staff was able to visit ten different stations that had applications that could be used in the classroom as a creative new idea or a way to enhance the current curriculum standards covered. We were fortunate to have outside help and some of our own teachers help showcase great applications.

Staff members spent time at the following stations:

**SeeSaw** (led by 1st grade teacher Gina Wagner): A digital journaling application that lets teachers and students better connect with their families in regards to what's going on in the classroom.

**Quizizz** (led by Tech Integration Specialist Stan Moore): A site/app that gamifies formative tests. Content can be delivered as a game or created into a homework/quiz assignment done on their own time. Its flexibility gives the teacher the ability to meet the needs of more students as well.

**SpheroEDU** (led by 5th grade teacher Wendy Jennings): A site/app that uses spherical robots to code and store data. SpheroEDU's site/app covers many subjects so teachers and tech leaders can be creative with how the robots could be used. They are a great way to added additional excitement to a topic.

**Kami** (led by industrial tech teacher Kyle Kostrzewski): An application that helps teachers and students annotate and markup a digital PDF. The application gives classrooms the flexibility to be completely paperless. It lets students and teachers also record their voice and add images over the PDF documents.

**Flipgrid** (led by elementary principal Shad Schmidt): Flipgrid is a website that allows teachers to create "grids" of short discussion-style questions that students respond to through recorded videos. Each grid is effectively a message board where teachers can pose a question and their students can post a short video response that appears in a tiled "grid" display. Flipgrid is being used at many different levels of education now. It's a great way for professional developments as well.

**SMART Labs** (led by Tech Integration Specialist Lukas Gotto of Alexandria):

SMART boards have now been a staple for many years in schools. They have helped teachers present information in a more effective way with interactive tools and puts the computer's control at their fingertips while staying accessible to the students. SMART software has evolved as well with schools implementing 1:1 devices. It now has more interactivity with the devices the students use.

**HyperDocs** (led by Tech Integration Specialist Janelle Field of BBE):

A Google Doc that contains an innovative lesson for students - a 21st century worksheet, but much better. ... With one shortened link, students can access a lesson that contains instructions, links, tasks, and many clever ways to get kids thinking. It's a more engaging assignment that challenges students to create and respond within one page, utilizing digital tools that are available as well.

**Nearpod** (led by 2nd grade teacher Melanie Stier): an interactive presentation and assessment tool. The app's concept is simple. A teacher can create presentations that can contain quizzes, polls, videos, images, drawing-boards, web content, virtual tours, and more. The students are led by the teacher and all students are actively engaged participants in the activities and discussions.

**Google Expeditions** (led by social studies teacher Matt Hoelscher): Google Expeditions is an immersive learning and teaching tool that lets you go on VR trips or explore augmented reality objects. Classes can explore historical landmarks, go down to the atomic level, get up close with sharks, even visit outer space!

The key to successful integration of digital ideas is baby-steps and support. Having a tech team has given more teachers the willingness to try new things in the classrooms in regards to enhancing the way we implement curriculum standards.

## Nurse Notes

### *Angie Baker*



Winter is upon us!! I want to remind all parents that our elementary students go outside for recess every day that it is above the real feel of -10 which means that they need coats, hats, gloves, boots and snow pants every day that they are in school. I would like you to think about any health concerns that your

children might have and decide if those should be shared with the school. Such things would include any medications that they are taking (even if they are taking them at home, there is always a possibility of reaction), diagnosis of any disease, allergies, and behavioral concerns. We will keep what you share confidential. Also, please don't forget to let me know if there are any changes that have been made or updates that I should be made aware of. I also need to know if your emergency contact information has changed.

I am in the office from 8:10 a.m. to 3:10 p.m. any day that children are present. Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns that you may have at 320-859-2191 and when you hear the recording, press 4 for health services. You can also email me at abaker@osakis.k12.mn.us.



**Osakis Theater Department  
Presents**

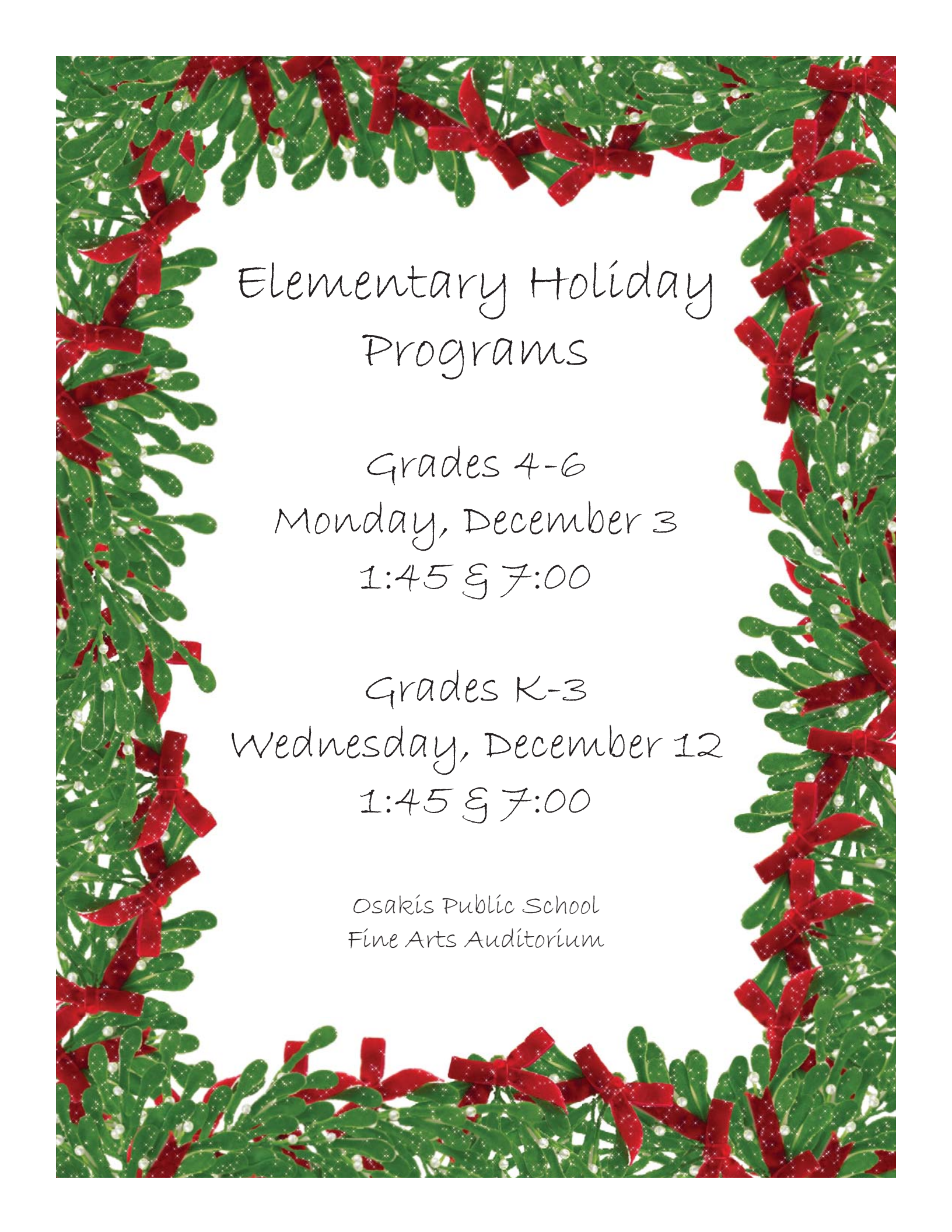
# **The Love of Three Oranges**

**A Play in One Act  
by Hillary DePiano**

**A fairytale comedy.  
How will the sick prince be saved by rescuing  
the three oranges?  
Tag along on this merry adventure through  
curses, witches, wizards, and laughter!**

**Produced by special arrangements  
with Playscripts, Inc.**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 26  
7:00 P.M.  
Osakis Fine Arts Auditorium**



# Elementary Holiday Programs

Grades 4-6  
Monday, December 3  
1:45 & 7:00

Grades K-3  
Wednesday, December 12  
1:45 & 7:00

Osakis Public School  
Fine Arts Auditorium



**ECFE Classes**

Tuesday 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.  
Thursday 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.  
Thursday 6:00 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

**Preschool Classes**

MWF: 8:00 A.M. - 10:50 A.M.  
or 12:00 P.M. - 2:50 P.M.  
T/TH: 8:00 A.M. - 10:50 A.M.  
or 12:00 P.M. - 2:50 P.M.

OSAKIS PUBLIC SCHOOL



Early Childhood Family Education  
THE PATH TO SUCCESS!

**Jan Campbell**  
320-859-2191 Ext. 1171  
**Tera Anderson**  
320-859-2191 Ext. 1169

**ECFE Parent Facilitators**  
Ramona Wippler  
Danielle Kreemer

**ECFE Happenings:**

Osakis ECFE will be taking off from mid-December to mid-January. You can still call in and get registered for the next session.

Osakis Preschool is still taking in new students! Give us a call!  
(320) 859-2191 ext 1171





# POSTAL CUSTOMER

Non-Profit Org.  
Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Osakis, MN  
56360  
Permit No. 3

## Community Education

### Open Gym and Weight Room

The gym and weight room will continue to be open for public use on Sundays from 5:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m., and on Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Cost per session is \$2.00. Punch cards will be available in the amounts of \$20.00 and \$40.00 and can be purchased at the district office or at open gym or weight room sessions. **All elementary students MUST be accompanied by an adult.**

### Zumba

Are you ready to party yourself into shape? Forget the workout, just lose yourself in the music and find yourself in shape at the original dance-fitness party. Zumba classes feature exotic rhythms set to high-energy Latin and international beats. Before you know it you'll be getting fit and your energy levels will be soaring! It's easy to do, effective and totally exhilarating. Every class features rocking music, fun, easy to follow routines, and just a little bit of silliness. There are no restrictions; as long as you feel fit enough to dance, we're happy to have you! And you don't even have to be able to dance - just follow me and you'll even surprise yourself! There are no mistakes in Zumba... only unexpected solos! Zumba will be held every Sunday at 5 pm. Location TBD. Fee: \$5 per session payable at the door. Certified Zumba Instructor: Julie Backes. Text 81010 and put in @936GFD in the message to receive remind notifications.

### Winter Swimming Lessons

Sign up is on a first come - first, serve basis for elementary students and class size is limited to 10 students. Students will be able to ride the bus to the lessons from school but it is the

The District 213 Newsletter publishes four issues per year. If you have questions please contact Randal Bergquist, School Superintendent, at 320-859-2191

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
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For additional information call or visit  
our website at:  
www.osakis.k12.mn.us

Managing Editor: Mary Leuthner  
Layout and Design: Timothy Larson

parents' responsibility to pick up their student on time. All students must be picked up by 4:30. No classes on Wednesdays unless specified. Cost: \$35 per student. A parent-signed waiver is required and will need to be signed the first day of class when you pick up your child.

**Levels 1, 3, & 5:** Feb 4-14 (Class will be held Wed. Feb 13 as there is no school on Friday, Feb.15)


**Levels 2, 4, & 6:** Feb 19-Mar. 1 (Class will be held Wed. Feb 20 as there is no school on Monday, Feb.18)

**Osakis Hunger Coalition Soup Cook-Off**


*Sunday, January 20, 11 - 1:30*

*Osakis Community Center*

*Featuring a variety of soups, sandwiches, ice cream, and bars*



*Silent auction*



*Freewill offering*

*Help sustain the Backpack Attack Program at Osakis Public School*

### A Handy Reminder!

Did you know that you can use your family Skyward account for many things? You can use it to check your student's lunch balance, make a payment, or limit ala carte purchases. If you need your log-in information, please let either the Elementary or High School office know. Don't forget that there must be a positive lunch balance in order to purchase ala carte items or milk if a person is having cold lunch. Skyward is fast, easy, and convenient!

### COMMUNITY EDUCATION REGISTRATION

Advance registration is necessary because each class depends on a minimum number of enrollees to offer that class. Some classes also have maximums. Class registration requires that fees be paid before the first night of class to ensure registration. Please complete the registration form and return it with your check made payable to the Osakis Public School.

Mailing address: Osakis Community Education;  
Attn. Shari; P.O. Box X, Osakis MN 56360

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fee** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fee** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fee** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL FEE** \_\_\_\_\_