

# OCJH PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

By PRINCIPAL KATE ROSS

FEBRUARY 20, 2023



## EVENTS 2/20-3/5 (SCHOOL EVENTS, PTA EVENTS, HOLIDAYS)

2/20-2/26 (B-WEEK)

2/27-3/5 (B-WEEK)

20 Presidents' Day--No School

21 SCC Meeting 2:30-3:30 in the Conference Room

22 Orchestra Festival 8:15-1:45 @Lakeridge

22 OCJH's Got Talent Practice 12:30-3:30 in the Auditorium

22 PG Cares Event 6:00-9:00 @ PGHS

23 Student Leadership Coalition in Auditorium Lunches & B7

23 Orchestra Tour to Elementary Schools 9:15-1:15

23 OCJH's Got Talent Practice 2:30-4:30 in the Auditorium

23 Parent Teacher Conferences (by Appointment) 3:00-7:00

24 Advanced Orchestra Festival 8:15-1:45 @ Lakeridge

28 Grand Concert Rehearsal 6:45-7:30 (AM) in the Auditorium

28 ASD Board Meeting 6:00 @ District Office

1 First Day of Womens' History Month

1 6th Grade Day @ Oak Canyon 8:00-12:00

2 Grand Concert Rehearsal 6:45-7:30 (AM) in the Auditorium

3 OCJH Grand Concert 6:00-9:00 (PM) in the Auditorium

## MESSAGE FROM MRS. ROSS



*On Tuesday, February 8, 2022, I received a phone call around 9 PM from Alpine School District informing me that my name had been submitted and approved by the Alpine School District Board of Education to become the principal of Oak Canyon Jr. High. I had spent 11 years just down the street at Lindon Elementary as the principal, and I was informed that the following day, I would need to inform the faculty and staff at Lindon that I had received a new assignment first thing that morning. It was one of the hardest things I have ever had to do. Saying goodbye to cherished friends and colleagues is never easy, but our meeting took a little different tone when I announced where I had been assigned. The tears turned into applause, and one of the teachers said, "at least our work at Lindon won't be in vain!" Here we are a full year later, and I have never forgotten that statement. It is twofold, and it fits perfectly with our school value of COMMITMENT:*

*First, it is not unusual for elementary schools and secondary schools to work independently of one another. Most educators at both levels have little to no understanding of the work that is done above or below them. As new 7th graders enter the junior high, they come with strong educational backgrounds, but those backgrounds can be disregarded because they are simply unknown. The efforts of the past 7 years of teachers can be undervalued simply because they are a mystery. What a gift it has been to know the amazing things our incoming 7th graders bring to Oak Canyon from all of our feeder elementaries. Thank you to every elementary faculty and staff member that has worked hard to prepare our students with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed to be successful in life. Your efforts have not been in vain!*

*Second, I can empathize with all of the students that enter OCJH as new members of the school community. I know what it feels like to try to establish oneself, make friends, learn, grow, make mistakes and have to learn and*

grow some more. The most important things we can do as members of our school community (either new or established) are to show up every day, put forth our best effort, manage our time and materials, learn how to be creative problem solvers, and ultimately make our school a better place. I still have a lot to learn, but I promise that our efforts are not in vain when we show our commitment to doing and being our best every day. We look forward to welcoming you into our school this week for Parent Teacher Conferences on Thursday, February 23--what a great opportunity to partner with our students and combine our efforts at school and at home to help them continue to grow and succeed. Don't forget, P/T appointments are by appointment this time, so schedule an appointment to meet with any and/or all of your student's teachers ASAP (instructions are below). We hope to see you soon!

## NEW INFORMATION:

### FROM THE OCJH PTSA

#### **PG CARES EVENT: UNTANGLING TEENS AND TECH--FEBRUARY 22 @ PGHS FROM 6PM-9PM**

This is the event we've all been waiting for to hear from Andrea Davis, founder of Better Screen Time, to learn how to support teens discover what a healthy relationship to tech looks like. There will be a variety of vendors on hand to share additional tools and resources to help in this endeavor. Our own OCJH Hope Squad will be on hand to help run the event. It will be a valuable night, and we hope to see you there!

**PG CARES COMMUNITY CONNECTION EVENT**

# UNTANGLING TEENS & TECH

with **ANDREA DAVIS**  
Andrea Davis is a former teacher and mom of three who founded Better Screen Time in 2014. She is the author of the book "Untangling Teens & Tech" and has been featured in numerous media outlets. She is a frequent speaker at conferences and events, sharing her expertise on how to help teens develop a healthy relationship with technology.

At this free parent event, you'll learn how to support teens as they discover what a healthy relationship with tech looks like. Through connection and open conversations, you can give your teen a sense of self stronger than any screen.

**Wednesday, February 22**  
PLEASANT GROVE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM  
700 S 200 S, PL PLEASANT GROVE

**6:00pm** doors open—visit resource booths & enjoy refreshments  
**6:45pm** presentation starts  
**8:00pm** Q&A panel  
**8:30pm** prize drawings  
**9:00pm** resource booths close

first 100 people to arrive get a family package of PG-Famous Care's Cookies

**RESOURCE BOOTHS**

- Pravo Canyon Behavioral Health
- Utah County Health Department (dshelton.org)
- Digital Responsibility
- Project Shine (Miss PG-Sunny Allen)
- Peak Psychiatry
- HopecUtah
- Summit Counseling Solutions
- Center For Change
- American Fork Communities that Care
- Sageleaf
- The Sharing Place
- BRU Comprehensive Clinic
- Addict to Athlete
- Crossfamilies
- Family Haven
- ...and more!

**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:**

PEAK, FOCUS, FERRISWIRE, TOYOTA, VERIZON, BIE-D, PGcares, SOBE PER 101

## OCJH SPELLING BEE CHAMPS

We'd like to extend congratulations to the following for their spelling prowess: Miles Larsen--1st; Everett Nokes --2nd; Olivia Tucker--3rd. Thanks to Michelle Allan for heading up this event!

## THANK YOU BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL

Our Eagle Basketball teams did a wonderful job this season! It was fun to watch them grow and progress throughout the season. Our Boys and Girls teams were tough and played their hearts out every game. Thanks to Coach Crockett and Coach Johnson, their respective coaching staff members, faculty score-keepers, Student Council for halftime activities, and all that came to cheer on and support our student athletes. Well done!

## OCJH PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES 2/23

Just a quick reminder that we have our winter Parent Teacher Conferences coming up on Thursday, February 23 from 3:00-7:00 PM. The format for this evening will be by appointment only scheduled by parents between 3:00-7:00 PM. We will be using the **scheduling feature in Skyward** for parents to schedule appointments. Click [here](#) for a tutorial on how to schedule an appointment!

## REMINDERS:

### STAKEHOLDERS' REPORT 22-23

Please take a moment to review the 22-23 OCJH Stakeholders Report by clicking on this [link](#).

### BATTLE OF THE BOOKS ANNOUNCEMENT

Do you like to read? Do you like competitions? Do you want to meet people and earn prizes? Join Oak Canyon's Battle of the Books. You can sign up in the library by yourself or with others by Jan. 18th. Lunchtime Book Club begins Tuesday Jan 17 during both lunches on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This month we will be reading The Unforgettable Logan Foster. All are invited to participate! See Ms. Bachelor for more information.

### ASD RISE NOMINATIONS

Do you know a teacher or school employee who is **Remarkable, Inspiring, Selfless, and/or Encouraging**? Please nominate them for the new ASD RISE Award. Nominees will be recognized at their school, and a few each month will be selected for Board Recognition during a Board meeting at the District Office. Click [here](#) to access the nomination form. So far, the following Faculty and Staff have received nominations:

### OCJH AFTER SCHOOL CONNECTION ACTIVITIES

Oak Canyon offers a variety of after school connection activities. Click on the following link to see the complete list: [OCJH AFTER SCHOOL CONNECTION ACTIVITIES 22-23](#)