September 15, 2014

NEWS FROM JORDAN ELLIOTT, HEAD OF UPPER SCHOOL

I can speak for the Upper School faculty and staff when I say we are so glad to have students back on campus and to have classes up and running. Our seniors launched us into the new school year with their creative senior entrance that introduced their theme of "V15ION". Our newest Upper School students, the Class of 2018, have already impressed us with their positive enthusiasm as a group. We are off to a great start!

We look forward to welcoming parents to our annual Back-to-School Night on Wednesday, September 17. I strongly encourage you all to attend. Year after year I receive feedback from parents that this is a very worthwhile night where you get to experience your child’s classes and meet their teachers. I look forward to seeing you here on Wednesday, September 17, beginning at 6:30 pm. Please mark your calendar with upcoming PAL meetings (listed at the end of this VOICE) for your child's grade level as we will bring a wealth of topics for discussion.

Follow me on Twitter: @OESheadUS.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>September 16</td>
<td>Books &amp; Breakfast, 8-9:45am, Platt</td>
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<td>September 17</td>
<td>FOESL mtg, 8:00-9:30am, DVR</td>
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<td>September 17</td>
<td>US Back-to-School Night, 6:30pm, Great Hall (new starting location)</td>
<td>Great Hall</td>
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<td>September 19</td>
<td>US Pictures, Great Hall &amp; Outdoors</td>
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<td>September 22-26</td>
<td>Homecoming Week (see details below)</td>
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<td>September 22</td>
<td>11th Grade PAL, 8:00am, DVR</td>
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<td>September 23</td>
<td>Guatemala Winterim meeting, 6:00pm, Platt</td>
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SCHOOL NOTES

(NEW) Visitors from Nanjing China
A group of students from Nanjing China will visit our school between Sept. 26-Oct. 3. We are looking for host families for this group to stay during this time. Questions? Contact Cecilia Shang Benting by email or at (503)416-9267.

(NEW) Volunteer Needs
We are seeking two parents from each Upper School grade to coordinate a class basket for the auction. Anyone interested should contact Sally LeFeber.

(NEW) FOESL
Friends of OES Libraries (FOESL) committee will be meeting on Wednesday, September 17 from 8:00-9:30am in the Drinkward Volunteer Room - all parents welcome!

Student Accounts
Throughout the year, students have the ability to charge different expenses to their accounts here on campus. this can include candy/pizza sales, tickets for prom, entrance to a social event or fundraiser. Please take the time to talk to your children about charging to their account. If you have questions email Deri Bash or Lisa Kave (in the Business Office).

Attendance REMINDER
Please remember to call or email in advance if your child is going to miss school or be late for any reason. Doing so will help us keep your child safe. Email USattend or call US Attendance Coordinator, Alison Nugent, at (503) 768-3169.

US Picture Day
Please mark your calendar for US Picture Day: Friday September 19th. There will be a limited number of forms available at school or you can print this Order Form well ahead of time and send in with your student on September 19 or before.

Honeywell Instant Alert
As Fall fast approaches it is important to be ready for what nature throws our way. OES contracts with an emergency announcement calling service that will notify families of school delays and closures and other emergency’s. In order to receive these announcements, you must register with Honeywell Instant Alert. Learn more.

(NEW) BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT
Back-to-School Night
Wednesday, September 17, 2014 at 6:30 pm

On Wednesday, September 17, the OES Upper School will host its Back-to-School Night. We will start in advisory groups (Great Hall) at 6:30 pm. The evening’s events will include a brief “advisory,” seven shortened class blocks, and a Gathering. During class time, teachers will share their approach and invite questions and discussion on their courses.

Upper School PAL Meetings - Mondays, 8:00-9:30 am
Drinkward Center Volunteer Room
September 22 - 11th Grade
September 29 - 12th Grade
October 6 - 9th Grade
October 13 - 10th Grade

If you have questions, please contact the Upper School Office at 503-768-3122, Pat Freeman or Jean Verheggen

(NEW) HOMECOMING 2014

Homecoming Week!

Spirit Week
Every year for Homecoming Week (Sept 22-26) all students have the option to dress in a different theme. The children have the choice of dressing in the theme below, wearing spirit wear, or wearing their uniform. Keep in mind they must still wear shoes that are appropriate for PE.

**Monday:** Hipster

**Tuesday:** Tropical

**Wednesday:** Clash

**Thursday:** TeleV15ion (dress as your favorite character- tv, movie, etc.)

**Friday:** Spirit (anything that shows school spirit)

**Pep Rally**

Join us for the all-school pep rally in the gym on Friday, Sept 26 from 8-8:30. Varsity teams will be introduced and the pep squad will perform! Parents are invited.

**Homecoming Games**

All OES families are invited!

**Friday, September 26 at the OES Turf Field**

- Varsity Boys' Soccer vs. Catlin Gabel 4:15pm
- Varsity Girls' Soccer vs. Catlin Gable 6:15pm

If you have not let us know you will be there, please click below.

**Please RSVP by Friday, September 19 for the free dinner and entry into the raffle.**

There are still many ways to be involved. **Click here to volunteer!**

**NEW** SCHOOL STORE

Fall Sport and Homecoming Merchandise are Available in the OES Store!

**NOW IN!** Spirit wear for **Soccer, Volleyball and Cross Country**, featuring a new, two color design! Pick out a t-shirt or sweatshirt, and support your team in style!

**Homecoming** and Spirit Wear have arrived at the School Store! Come in and find a great selection of crew neck and hooded sweatshirts, as well as t-shirts, sweatpants, and again this year: girl-cut t-shirts. We also have 6 new colors of sunglasses, stadium seat cushions, spirit scarves, new styles of hats, water bottles, nike socks and much more!

**Store Hours:** Open 2pm-4pm every weekday, as well as by appointment in the morning. You can always visit us online at [www.oes.edu/store](http://www.oes.edu/store).

Questions? Contact [Madeleine](mailto:madeleine@oes.edu)

**NEW** US YEARBOOK - SENIORS!

There are several opportunities for seniors and their parents to contribute to the yearbook. Below is a description of these opportunities and their deadlines. We need to submit our pages to the publisher at certain intervals, so **these deadlines are not flexible!**

Please let us know if you have any questions.

1. **MUG SHOTS:** December 1st, 2014
2. SENIOR PAGES: January 10th, 2015  
3. BABY PICTURES: March 1st, 2015  
4. PARENT ADS: March 1st, 2015

MUG SHOTS: Sometimes students submit a studio photo to be used in place of their school photo for the yearbook. This is not required. Sending a digital photo to me is the easiest way to submit an image, or we will scan the photo and return it to the student.

SENIOR PHOTO GUIDELINES  
Head and shoulders only  
Print size – 3” X 3”  
Quality - 300 DPI  
Deadline – December 1, 2014

For more info, contact:  
Sue Jensen, US Arts Faculty, Advisor to Yearbook

(NEW) WINTERIM 2015

March may seem very far away at this moment, but it will be here before we know it! The full catalogue of local and domestic Winterim offerings will be available online just before Thanksgiving, but if your student is interested in participating in an international course in 2015, the registration deadline is September 29 at 9:00am. Please see the full list of international courses and their descriptions.

To apply to participate in an international course, please submit an application form and a deposit of $500 (checks made out to OES) to Christina Meyerhoff by 9:00am on Monday, September 29. Financial aid is available for all Winterim courses. Financial aid application forms are also available on the Winterim webpage and should be submitted directly to Jen Bash, Assistant Director of Admissions and Financial Aid.

Chajul, Guatemala Winterim

If your student is interested in participating in the 2015 Winterim trip to Chajul, Guatemala, and you would like to learn more about this biennial collaboration with Catlin Gabel, please join us for an information meeting on Tuesday, September 23 at 6:00pm In the Platt Global Classroom.

Hosting a student from Australia

This year we will again host a student from the Golburn Valley Grammar School in Australia. We have one 15 year-old male student joining us this year from November 14 to December 12. The goal is for him to fully participate in OES life (classes, athletics, other activities) and to experience life in the United States. In exchange, we have the opportunity for our students to visit and attend the Golburn Valley Grammar School in the future. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity and are interested in hosting this student, either for all or half of his time here, please contact Christina Meyerhoff.

(NEW) MUSIC NOTES

Please welcome Jeff Hornick who will teach LS band, MS jazz and US jazz. Jeff comes to OES from McMinnville High School. He has taught at all levels, both concert and jazz bands. He is the president of the Oregon Band Director’s Association and is a recent recipient of the National Band Association Citation of Excellence for the state of Oregon. He is a wonderful addition to our music faculty and is excited to make music with our students at OES.

For questions about the programs he will teach, please contact Jeff.

(NEW) VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

"There are a million things a man won’t do for five dollars, but there aren’t five things a man won’t do for a million." -Mrs. Savage

The OES Performing Art’s Department is proud to announce the fall production of The Curious Savage, written by John Patrick and directed by Liz Harlan-Ferlo.
When Ethel Savage inherits her late husband's fortune, her plans to start a "happiness fund" for strangers distresses her three grown-up children. It is only after they have her committed to The Cloisters sanatorium that they discover she has hidden the money, and become willing to look anywhere to find it. Ethel finds herself part of the Cloister family of patients, a gentle and eccentric group, and with their help tests her children's greedy nature. Will the money ever be found?

Performances are November 13th-15th. Watch this space to reserve your seat for this smart and charming comedy!

(NEW) OES SERVICE LEARNING

September is a great time for students to get in the habit of using their power for good and working toward their Service Learning requirement. Complete information about Service Learning in the Upper School is on the US Service Learning website.

What can parents do to help? Remind your child to stay alert and aware of what she or he needs to do, and support him or her in finding opportunities. Questions? Contact Robin Schauffler, SL Coordinator. For a list of red-hot volunteer opportunities available to students RIGHT NOW, check out the Opportunities page.

By grade level, students should focus on different tasks:

9th grade: Work on the 20 exploratory OFF campus hours needed before January 2016, and look for ON campus opportunities.

10th grade: Finish those 20 OFF campus hours this semester (!!!), look for ON campus opportunities, and be thinking about what to do for Service Learning Projects.

11th grade: Look for ON campus opportunities, and be thinking about what to do for Service Learning Projects; it is wise to complete at least one Project before June 2015 (and if the 20 OFF campus hours are not complete, see Robin NOW!)

12th grade: This is it. Do not put off your hours or your Projects. June 12 is sooner than you think. Need help? SEE ROBIN.

Go to Hands-On-Portland and find date-specific volunteer events at a variety of places all over town, or CLICK HERE for the OES Service Learning website's list of projects and agencies that always welcome volunteers, anytime.

(NEW) DORM NEWS

Greetings from Rodney and Jackson House! Our dorm students have been very busy with the start of the new year. Along with all their academic demands, they have been attending to weekend activities: Dinners celebrating Chinese, Thai and Korean heritage, The Mid-Autumn Moon Festival, Star-Gazing, Kayaking and Swim-o-rama. We would like to invite other students from the Upper School to join us and spend some time in the dorms. Brad Hoffman is our new coordinator for the Backyard Exchange Program. If students are interested in spending time with us in the dorms, or are interested in hosting our international students during the upcoming Thanksgiving break, please email Brad.

COMMUNITY DIVERSITY LINK (CDL)

Books and Breakfast 2014-15

“The worst distance between two people is misunderstanding” unknown.

The Community Diversity Link (CDL) hopes to foster multicultural awareness and understanding through reading and open discussion. Books and Breakfast meetings are hosted by the Community Diversity Link and open to the entire OES community. It is not mandatory to read the books in order to participate in our discussions.

We will start off the school year reading Wonder by RJ Palacio. Middle School students and Patrick Fuller, MS Librarian, will join us to discuss the themes of the book at our first meeting on September 16th at 8:00 am in the Platt Global Classroom. This book is “An inspiring, touching story of one community's struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance” and a quick read! Bring your favorite precept or inspirational quote.
On October 28, 8:00 am in the Platt Global Classroom, we'll discuss *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. One of the top 10 New York Times Book Review books for 2013 and just shortlisted for the 2014 Bailey's Prize for Women's Fiction. Described as "a richly told story set in today’s globalized world: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s most powerful and astonishing novel yet." We look forward to engaging with this gripping tale.

We look forward to seeing you!

**AASK**

**Make AASK part of your service learning plans this year!**

As you make plans for service learning, think strongly about making AASK part of your school year. Our focus is on tutoring students in 6th-8th grades at Whitford Middle School right after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays (we get back no later than 5:00pm). This is a great opportunity to help students not only become more successful with completing their homework, but to also experience the inner rewards of getting to know a child and making a difference in that student’s life. It’s cool, it’s fun – and it is critically important for their school success.

Fall session begins with the training that is required, and will be on **Saturday, September 27 from 9:00am – 3:00pm**. The AASK student leadership team provides the training and will cover building teamwork among the tutors, expectations for being a tutor, intercultural factors involved in the work and strategies for teaching. **Tutoring begins on September 30 and runs through November 20.** If you are playing a fall sport and want to tutor, you would wait to volunteer during the winter or spring trimesters.

AASK can count for on or off campus service hours OR a service learning project.

Please see Myra Clark in Area 51, or contact her at 503-768-3193 for more information. Applications are right outside Area 51.

**COLLEGE COUNSELING**

**College Visits at OES**

Many colleges will visit OES this fall to meet with interested students. We encourage juniors and seniors to keep a close eye on the college visit schedule in Naviance. The schedule will be posted on bulletin boards in the Library and Great Hall and on the OES website (college counseling page). We will do our best to send juniors and seniors an email each week with the schedule for the upcoming two weeks. However, Naviance is the source of the most up-to-date schedule and will change throughout the fall as visits are added. Students are encouraged to sign up for visits on Naviance. This results in an automatic email reminder close to the date of the visit.

**PSAT at OES**

Sophomore and junior families, please note that the PSAT will be given the morning of Wednesday, October 15. Students do not need to register and will take the test at OES. We will send details in a later email. Students have already received practice materials.

**Octoberim and Seniors**

Seniors have the opportunity to visit colleges during Octoberim (October 15-17). Those involved in sports should keep in mind that there may be athletic events scheduled during this time that limit your travel. On Wednesday and Thursday the college counselors will be available to assist students who stay on campus with college applications and essays.

**SAT/ACT Tests**

Seniors, please note the following test dates and registration deadlines. Enter the school code when you register (380915) and if you are taking the ACT, it is important to include the optional writing test. There is a late registration deadline for each test date that requires an additional fee. See the testing websites for additional information.

**SAT/ACT Dates and (Registration Deadline):**

- **SAT Testing**
  - October 11 (late 9/30)**
CLASS NOTES

9th Grade PAL – First meeting is on October 6th at 8am in the Drinkward Volunteer Center. Questions? Contact Jana Reddoch.
  Upcoming meetings: November 3rd, January 9th, February 2nd, April 6th, and May 4th.

10th Grade PAL – First meeting is on October 13th at 8am in the Drinkward Volunteer Center. Questions? Contact Jane Langley.
  Upcoming meetings: November 10th, January 12th, February 9th, April 13th, and May 11th.

11th Grade PAL – First meeting is on September 22nd at 8am in the Drinkward Volunteer Center. Contact Kay Pinkava.
  Upcoming meetings: October 20th, November 17th, January 20th (Tuesday), February 17th (Tuesday), April 20th, and May 18th.

12th Grade PAL – First meeting is on September 29th at 8am in the Drinkward Volunteer Center. Questions? Contact Jan Massaro.
  Upcoming meetings: October 27th, November 18th (Tuesday), January 26th, February 23rd, April 27th, and May 26th (Tuesday).

PAL meeting Calendar (all grades)