# CHARGER CONNECTION



Volume 3, No. 3

October 26, 2023

### **ALL IN, EVERYONE WINS!!**

**Inside This Edition: November Highlights at OCVS!** 

In November, we're gearing up for the K-5 Field Day on November 3rd, promising a day of outdoor excitement and teamwork. Our school clubs are bustling with engaging events, from art exhibitions to intriguing science experiments. Red Ribbon Week highlights the importance of making healthy life choices. The district is hosting November Parent Academies, offering valuable insights for parents. Our reading and math coaches are available to provide extra support, and we'll keep you updated on important testing information. Join us in making this November a memorable month of growth, fun, and learning for our entire school community. Continue reading to find out more!

**All In, Everyone Wins!** 



"October: a month of falling leaves, rising spirits, and the magic of learning under every tree."



Clubs

Coaches Corner

**ESE Department** 

**ESOL Department** 

**Guidance Department** 

Partners in ED

Principal's Reflection

S.A.C.

SAFE Corner

<u>Technology</u>

**Testing** 

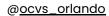
**Upcoming Events & Info** 













### PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

**OCVS Parents and Guardians**,

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to express my excitement and gratitude for the great start to the school year. Time is flying by, and it's been truly productive.

Our students have been incredibly active and their involvement has been nothing short of rewarding. As we embark on the second marking period, we are determined to continue this journey with great success.

There are wonderful things happening at OCVS. We've got our Senior Costume Party & meeting that occurred just this week. They are well on their way to electing their Senior Class officers! Our clubs and Honor Society chapters are bustling with activity and excitement. Science Club and Black Student Union are meeting next week on campus. We've also got Elementary Field Day happening in the beginning of November! Testing and student workdays at campus continue through the month of November.

None of these things would be possible without your commitment to our school and, more importantly, to your child's success. Thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to what the future holds for our students.

Wishing you all the best as we move into the start of the holiday season.

Warm regards, Your Proud Principal

Mrs. Brandi Gurley



### **UPCOMING EVENTS & INFO**

### ocvs elementary field day

WHEN: NOVEMBER 3RD, 2023 K-2: 9:00AM-11:00AM 3-5: 12N00N-3:00PM

WHERE: OCVS CAMPUS 4000 SILVER STAR ROAD ORLANDO, FL, 32804

wear: sports attire, team color, tennis shoes, socks

BRING: WATER





**No School October 27th** - Student Holiday/Teacher Non-Workday-Professional Development Day

### **OCPS Parent Academy:**

The best of Parent Academy in a bite-sized 1 hour version on WebEx Webinar
Times may vary but are typically
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

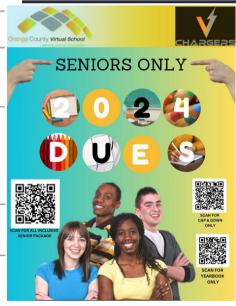
Visit <u>www.parentacademy.ocps.net</u> for more information on these and all academy offerings.

### **Click Here to register**

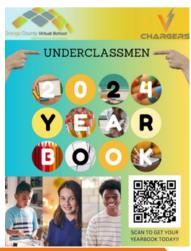
Day/Date	Topic	Accessibility	Host
Thursday 11/2	The Family That Reads Together, Succeeds Together	cc	Family Engagement
Thursday 11/9	Dealing with Challenges and Community Resources  Parents will gain important information regarding the district and community resources that will help in times of need.	20	Multilingual Services/ Exceptional Student Education/ Social Services/ MVP
Tuesday 11/14	Historically Black College or University (HBCU) College Admissions Panel High school students and their parents will meet admissions representatives and gain information from various Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) throughout the country. Each HBCU will provide a brief overview of their school, then answer questions about their college(university.	СС	Academic Services
Thursday 11/16	ESE Behavior Training Families will learn about the functions of behavior and effective strategies for intervening to achieve positive outcomes.	CC	Exceptional Student Education
Thursday 11/30	Valencia College Accelerated Skills Training  High school students and their parents gain information about Valencia College's Accelerated Skills Training programs focused on intensive, hands-on training designed to help students obtain a career/skillset. This event will highlight information about the various programs, their requirements, and potential outcomes for students.	89 F	Academic Services/ Multilingual Services

Thanksgiving Break, No School Nov. 20th - Nov. 24th









### **TESTING**

We had an extremely successful start to testing this year! All information about testing can be found on the **OCVS Website at** 

www.ocvs.ocps.net Families can click on "Students" and then "Testing Info" to access everything they need for testing this year.

We encourage you to look at the **Testing Calendars** under the **"Quick Links"** section to ensure you know what is coming up.

Just like last year, some assessments can be completed from home while others require students to come on campus. This year, state testing that is completed on campus will be at the OCVS campus and not your home-zoned school. (The only testing that might take place at a home zone school would be testing in May)

The OCVS Campus is located at 4000 Silver Star Road, Orlando, FL 32808.

We are preparing now for FAST PM2 which will take place in December. Students should receive an email to their OCPS student email accounts right after the Thanksgiving break with their testing links and usernames. If you have not received your email on December 1st, please email us to let us know. Just a reminder that all students will be scheduled to take FAST PM2 remotely. If you would like to complete the FAST PM2 from home, please register HERE.

Remember that FAST is for students in grades K-10 (Reading) and K-8 (Math). Elementary students will test with their classroom teacher. Students in grades 6-10 should monitor their OCPS Student Emails to get testing links and directions. FAST Math is for students taking elementary or middle school-level math classes. If you are a middle school student taking Algebra 1 or Geometry, you will not take FAST Math but will take STAR Math instead.

If you are in grades 10, 11, or 12 and are missing either your Algebra 1 or FAST Reading requirements, you can sign up on our website under the High School Testing Information and Calendar link.

TESTING AT A GLANCE	Oct Nov.	2023

DATE	EXAM	AUDIENCE	LOCATION
9/25	PSAT Computer Readiness Check	Students who signed up to take the PSAT on 10/9/23	On Campus
10/9	PSAT	Grade 10 Students Only *who have preregistered and completed the computer readiness	On Campus
10/11	SAT	Grade 12 Students Only for Fall *Paper Based Testing	On Campus
10/23	PERT	Students applying to Dual Enrollment	On Campus
11/2	ACT NCR	Students in grades 11-12 who need concordant scores for graduation  NOTE: This test cannot be used to apply for scholarships or colleges	On Campus
11/28 & 11/30	EOC Retakes	Students who need to make-up or retake an EOC exam for a class given prior to August 2023.	On Campus



### TECHNOLOGY

#### **TECH UPDATES**

Recently the Zscaler web filtering tool was deployed to OCPS-issued devices. Devices will need to be turned on to receive the update. If your child doesn't use the OCPS-issued device regularly, please have your child log on to be able to receive this update. After updating, your child will need to reboot the device a few times. For technical support with your child's device contact us at 407 317 3327 option 9 or email Phillip Sardin phillip.sardin@ocps.net



#### **CONTACT US**

**Please visit** 

https://ocvs.ocps.net/media\_center for information regarding devices.

#### **Donna Dalton**

Assistant Principal donna.dalton@ocps.net

#### **Phillip Sardin**

Technology Support Representative phillip.sardin@ocps.net



### STUDENTS: DO YOU KNOW HOW TO CHECK YOUR OCPS EMAIL??

Your OCPS email is the email that is your OCPS student id number such as

480XXXXXXX@students.ocps.net which the school uses to communicate important information such as testing information. To check your OCPS email go to Google Drive from Launchpad and then click on the dots next to your profile. This will display the GMAIL icon, which will be your student email.

### Click on the link to watch a "How To" video for help.

https://ocps.instructuremedia.com/embed/9ef5e8 4a-db1f-45f3-ad53-219ae7af387b

Do you know the difference between FLVS email and OCPS email? FLVS email is on the FLVS platform. The email link is at the top of the screen inside of VSA on FLVS. It is what is used most frequently by our teachers to communicate with students.

### **GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT**

#### **ELEMENTARY GUIDANCE**

Hello Chargers, did you complete the required OCPS Code of Conduct form? It only takes a few seconds to complete and can be found on Launchpad in the Canvas icon. Here is a video that will show you how to do it: Click Here To begin go to Launchpad.ocps.net then click on the Canvas icon. Thank you to all who have already completed it!

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL GUIDANCE

Hello Middle School Chargers! We are past the halfway point of the first semester! Students you should be at least 60% or more towards completion in your classes at this point in the school year. If you are behind pace and need help, please reach out to your teachers and/or school counselor.

Have you missed a Live Lesson? All Live Lessons are recorded and can be found on your teacher's Announcement Page. Be sure to attend Live Lessons or watch the recordings!

Do you need extra tutoring support? The Orange County Library Systems offers Brainfuse, a virtual tutoring program for K - 12 students through the Virtual Library Card on LaunchPad. Using Brainfuse, students can connect with a qualified tutor for expert help in a variety of subjects.

This link below explains the service in detail and includes a "how-to guide" for families. Students and educators can access the OCLS Virtual Library Card through the LaunchPad Library Research Tools folder:

https://tinyurl.com/m6tw5cw6

#### HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE

High School Chargers, as we get closer to the end of this first semester, please make sure you are on pace in your classes. All Segment 1 courses should be 100% complete **before the Winter break**. Please reach out to your teachers and your school counselor if you are struggling to remain on pace.

**Juniors**, please be sure to schedule your junior meeting! You recently received an email from your counselor with a link to schedule your meeting. In these meetings, we will discuss your progress toward graduation, your GPA, test requirements, and your post-secondary plans. Please reach out to your counselor if you have any questions.

Freshmen and Sophomores, please join your counselors virtually on November 9th, 5-7 PM, to learn more about graduation requirements, required testing, state scholarships, preparing for life after high school, and for a Q&A. This is a virtual presentation and parents are welcome to attend.

Join us at the link below!

#### **CONTACT US**

Katie Ballard, School Counselor Elementary K-5 Katherine.Ballard@ocps.net 407-391-5896



#### **CONTACT US**

Matthew Ireland, School Counselor 6-8 Last Names A-L matthew.ireland@ocps.net 407-502-3585



Jane Mills, School Counselor 6-8 Last Names M-Z Jane.Mills@ocps.net 407-553-2106





Join the meeting here!

### **ESE DEPARTMENT**

### **Gifted Education Program**



The purpose of gifted education is to provide programs and services that meet the unique cognitive, social, and emotional needs of gifted students, preparing them to succeed in a global society.

Florida legislation has identified gifted learners as a part of the exceptional student education population since 1968. In Florida, students are eligible for exceptional education programs if they meet the criteria outlined in <u>Florida Board of Education Rule 6A-6.03019, FAC</u>. These criteria focus on a learner's need for the gifted education program, general intellectual functioning, and various behavioral and intellectual characteristics. Gifted students come from all backgrounds with special abilities ranging across a wide spectrum of achievement. These students require special provisions to meet their educational needs.

For questions regarding the gifted education program at OCVS please contact Jamie Tice at jamie.tice@ocps.net

#### Florida Department of Education- Gifted Student Education

FLDOE site listing state laws, regulations, publications, and resources related to gifted education.



Gifted 3-5 - 11: 30 a.m.

### Click here to see the Secondary Live ESE Schedule

#### **CONTACT US**

Carrie Kroeplin, Staffing Specialist ESE 6-12 carolyn.voll@ocps.net 407-588-9232



Bebe Schlechte, ESE Resource Learning Strategies 6-8 Unique Skills ELA 6-8 Social Skills 6-8 mary.schlechte@ocps.net 321-248-5122

Jodi Keyek, ESE Resource Unique Skills MATH 6-12 jodi.keyek@ocps.net 321-410-8660

Stephanie Leisher, Gifted 6-8 stephanie.leisher@ocps.net 321-236-8124

## Vianny Gordon Speech Language Pathologist K - 12 Vianny Gordon@ocps.net











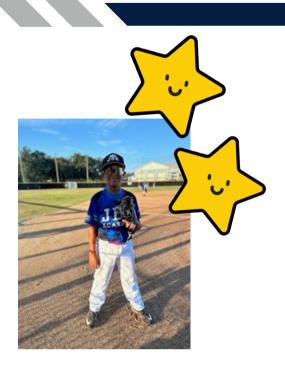
### **ESOL DEPARTMENT**

#### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS**

Imagine Learning is available to students who qualify!
This interactive program is designed to increase English language fluency and vocabulary development. Parents of students who qualified would have received information about Imagine Learning from Mrs. Davitt. Please reach out to Mrs. Davitt with any questions: 407-990-1863

#### **Star Student:**

**Aaron Solorzano:** Aaron is a 3rd grader who is an avid baseball player. His desire to become a professional baseball player is what brought him to OCVS. He practices daily in the morning and returns home to study. Responsibility is KEY for Aaron. Aaron is adjusting to virtual learning. He enjoys working with his teachers. Aaron has good grades in all of his classes and works hard to do his best!



### <u>Clubs</u>

ELL students may be interested in joining OCVS' International Club. OCVS also offers many other clubs and activities for students to connect with other students. Please follow the link in the clubs section for all clubs offered at OCVS.



Ms. Donna Dalton
Assistant Principal

Phone: 407-553-2117 donna.dalton@ocps.net



Ms. Madeline Cruz
OCVS 7006
Edgenuity Support
Ph. 321-306-6399
madeline.cruz@ocps.net
Late night: Thursday



Ms. Maria Davila
OCVS 7006
Edgenuity Support
Ph. 321-306-6557
davilam2@ocps.net
Late night: Thursday



Ms. Diane Davitt

OCVS 7001 & 7004

K-12th Grade
(Spanish & Portuguese)

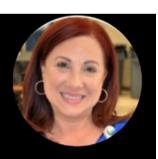
Study Hall

Imagine Learning

Ph. 407-990-1863

diane.davitt@ocps.net
Late night: Monday

On Campus: M/Tu/F



Ms. Ana Ramos
OCVS 7001 & 7004
Compliance Specialist
Ph. 407-801-4776
ana.ramos@ocps.net
Late night: Wednesday
On Campus: M/Th/F



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### **COACHES CORNER**

### **ELA**

Did you know that **Reading Support** isn't only offered to students enrolled in Homeroom Reading? That's right! ALL full-time OCVS students have access to the Reading Coaches for extra help in ELA/Reading! See below for what's available to ALL and what's offered EXCLUSIVELY to Homeroom Reading Students:

#### Offered to ALL Full Time OCVS Students:

Offered EXCLUSIVELY to Homeroom Reading Students:

Weekly Test Prep. Sessions Weekly Open Reading Labs K-8: Exact Path

9-12: Khan Academy

Fun Friday: Book Bites (excludes 3rd Friday of

each month)

Weekly Standard-Based ELA Live Lessons
Weekly Open ELA Study Hall
1:1 ELA Tutoring (by appointment)
MTSS Tier 3 Intervention (invite only)
Junior/Senior Face-to-Face Test Prep Boot Camp (invite only; dates to be determined)

**ATTENTION HOMEROOM-ENROLLED STUDENTS:** Please remember that, per the OCVS Student/Parent Handbook, it is an expectation that all Homeroom-enrolled students attend live lessons with their assigned Reading Coach. Be sure to attend at least one Test Prep. and/or standard-based ELA Live Lesson each week.

**KHAN Academy:** (found on Launchpad) is a fantastic program that is filled with content, videos, readings, and interactive tools to enhance your learning experience and success. The program is organized by grade level to make it an easy, user-friendly way to help practice and improve your skills in many curricular areas including, but not limited to, ELA, Test Prep., and Math! It is adaptive to your needs, which gives you the opportunity to progress at your pace. Aim to use Khan Academy for at least 30 minutes 3x weekly! Juniors and Seniors - have you connected your Khan Academy account with collegeboard.org yet? By doing so, your SAT scores will connect with the program, give you testing updates, and sync with your previous test scores in order to target your areas in most need of improvement. If you need help connecting your account, feel free to get in touch with the Reading or Math Coaches for guidance, or simply pop into one of our open Khan Academy Labs!

For K-8 Reading Support:



For High School Reading
Support:



Scan your grade-level QR code to the left for more information about Reading Support, including live links and schedules:





### **COACHES CORNER**

### **MATH**

### How can I get better at Math? Practice with a purpose.



Think about your favorite athlete, musician, or artist. Can you think of someone you consider to be an expert at something you love? Could you become as great as your idol by simply watching them at their craft? Do you become a great basketball player by watching basketball? Did you become a great singer/songwriter by going to Taylor Swift's concert? Of course not! What makes a person great at their craft is the work they put into it. The more time you spend practicing a skill, the better you get. There is no way around the fact that doing the work yourself is what makes you better.

Practice Math with a Purpose.

### CONTACT US - MATH COACHES Mrs. Fresia Urdaneta Grades K-4 321.307.9098 fresia.urdaneta@ocps.net Mrs. Tabitha Lum Grades 5-8 407.553.2265 TLum1@orange.flvs.net Mrs. Celita Williams Algebra 1 and HS Test Prep 321.234.5693 celita.mitchell@ocps.net Mrs. Jill Barnes All HS Math except Algebra 1 321.236.4931 kimberly.barnes@ocps.net

#### Grades K-5, Practice Skills with Reflex Math.

The weekly goal for Exact Path is 45 minutes and earning 3 Green Lights on Reflex math. We are thrilled to share some fantastic Reflex Math achievements by grade level! Our students have been working diligently to strengthen their math skills, and the results are impressive. Here's a snapshot of Reflex Math facts completed by each grade level:

**1st Grade: 9,306** 

2nd Grade: 40.3 Thousand 3rd Grade: 56.1 Thousand 4th Grade: 53.7 Thousand

5th Grade: 6,792

Congratulations to all our students for their hard work and dedication in improving their math fact fluency. It's wonderful to see such progress in our school community. Thank you to our dedicated teachers, supportive parents, and, most importantly, our students for making this achievement possible. Keep up the great work!

### Grades 6-12, Practice Skills with Khan Academy

Khan Academy is available on launch.ocps.net. If you are unsure how it works, reach out to your middle or high school coach. We will get you set up with work that is best for you.

THE PERSON WHO DOES THE WORK IS THE <u>ONLY</u> ONE WHO LEARNS.

- HARRY WONG



We can help you build confidence as you work on learning math. Come to our sessions - we would love to have you!

Use the QR code to access our schedules.

### **OCVS CLUBS NEWS**

Chargers, we would like to offer some amazing opportunities to participate in different clubs throughout this school year. If you did not get an opportunity to visit all the information tables during our Open House, you can view the catalog at this <u>link</u>. Please sign up and participate! We look forward to seeing you!



### **OCVS CHESS CLUB**

Our next two monthly OCVS Elementary Chess Club Meetings will be Thursday, November 2nd, and Thursday, December 7th at 3:00 PM at the following <u>link</u>. Remember, all OCPS students have free access to ChessKids through their OCPS Launchpad.

**Club Sponsor:** email Chad Houvouras at chad.houvouras@ocps.net



### **BLACK STUDENT UNION**

The BSU had an amazing time during their meet and greet game day and virtual meeting in October. Officers were elected and many ideas were shared on how to make this club great. Meetings are usually held on the 1st (in person) and 3rd (virtual) Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m. Sign up to be added to our email list for details on when and where we'll meet. If you are interested in joining the club please contact the club sponsor. Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 3rd, from 1-3 p.m. on campus in the cafeteria. Be prepared to paint, learn, and have fun!! ALL full-time OCVS Middle and High school students are welcome.

Club Advisor: Mrs. Monique Parker 407.203.9424

Email: monique.parker@ocps.net





### INTERNATIONAL CLUB

Join us for our virtual meeting on November 2nd at 2:30 p.m. You can sign up for using the link below:

https://forms.gle/MZ35e1AhxsDsBtem8

The International Club at OCVS provides an opportunity for OCVS students to share their cultural background with others, and to promote the language and culture of different countries while providing an atmosphere of spreading knowledge, tolerance, and diversity. Intended grade level: 6th-12th

### **Club Sponsors:**

Ms. Ruiz (407) 553-2604 /sulamita.ruiz@ocps.net Mrs. Davitt (407) 990-1863 / Diane.Davitt@ocps.net



# OCVS CLUBS NEWS (CONTINUED)

### **SAFE WITH US CLUB**

For students in grades 6-12. Virtual meetings are now taking place the first Thursday of each month at 4 PM with on-campus events to be determined. To express interest in joining, please submit the following: <u>SAFE with Us Club interest form</u>

#### DO SOMETHING CLUB

The Do Something Club had a small group up bright and early to bag sweet potatoes at Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida recently. We sorted through 5500 pounds of sweet potatoes, which will provide 4400 servings to our community! The next meeting (virtual) is Nov 7 at 11:30 a.m. Link to join is tinyurl.com/MrsLyonOCVS

Second Harvest Food Bank

5500lbs of Sweet Potatoes bagged, which will immediately provide 4400 servings to our community!



### **ELEMENTARY SPANISH CLUB**



### NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY NEWS

This school year, our National Junior Honor Society will be holding a varn donation drive to collect varn for **The** Magic Yarn Project. The mission of this beautiful organization is to create magic in the lives of children battling cancer and to inspire volunteerism to help make a difference. The Magic Yarn Project is funded solely by donations and powered entirely by volunteers. Since starting in 2015, this organization has shipped 44,765 wigs to every state and over 50 countries; and organized over 250,000 hours of volunteer service. Chemotherapy treatments often leave young scalps too sensitive for scratchy traditional wigs, but yarn wigs are comfy, soft, and warm. Click HERE for the list of approved yarns being collected. Sticking with only certain brands and colors of varn allows **The Magic Yarn Project** to match up the work of volunteers from all over the country cohesively. We also find certain yarns to be more durable and comfortable for children with hair loss. Anyone can donate! We appreciate your generosity. Drop off yarn donations in the front office and contact Ms. Harry if you have questions - krista.harry@ocps.net or (407) 574-3422

#### **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**

Congratulations, Fall 2023 High School National Honor Society Inductees! Our Induction Ceremony for new members was held on Wednesday, October 25th. We look forward to a year of community service, leadership, and learning! Congratulations to the entire NHS team!



If you are interested in joining SAC, please contact Manal Sohel at manal.sohel@ocps.net.

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, January 25, 2024

Time: 2:00 PM – 2:30 PM Meeting Link: click here

### S.A.F.E. CORNER

### S.A.F.E. SPACE



We celebrated **Red Ribbon Week 2023** at the end of October! Thank you for participating and showing your school spirit! Check us out: <a href="https://www.tinyurl.com/OCVScommunity">www.tinyurl.com/OCVScommunity</a>. Winners of the coloring contest and photo-sharing raffles will be contacted individually and shared in our next Charger Connection!



#### Enter our Raffle for a Chance to Win:

- Coloring Contest for Elementary, Middle and High: Complete this coloring page and send a picture to <u>Jenna.Faber@ocps.net</u> by October 31: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/OCVSColoringContest">https://tinyurl.com/OCVSColoringContest</a>
- Share your photos from Spirit Week on our Padlet. Don't forget to include your full name and grade level. Each photo shared earns one entry: <a href="https://www.tinyurl.com/OCVScommunity">www.tinyurl.com/OCVScommunity</a>









### **PARTNERS IN ED**

Build relationships between businesses/ organizations and schools that enhance student learning and provide students with even more opportunities for success.

Own a business that would benefit from supporting OCVS?

Sign up here:

https://ocps.samaritan.com/custom/503/volunteer\_home
Or Contact Laynie.Foskett@ocps.net and Megan.Tousignant@ocps.net

### Additions Volunteer Sign-Up: How to become an OCVS Additions Volunteer

### Step 1: Click on this link. It will take you to the ADDitions School Volunteers page for OCPS Click on the blue box Step 2: Ouick Links Click on the circle labeled Volunteers Step 3: Look for the School Dropdown menus, and find Orange County Virtual School. Click on the opportunity labeled #1- Become an ADDitions School Volunteer 2023-24 with ORANGE COUNTY VIRTUAL SCHOOL Public Schools **ADDitions** Step 4: SIGNUP

### CONTACT US

Laynie Foskett

Laynie.Foskett@ocps.net

Megan Tousignant

Megan.Tousignant@ocps.net