



OSBORN



Superintendent's Update

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT www.osbornschools.org

TO: GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS, STAFF & COMMUNITY

FROM: Dr. Michael Robert

DATE: August 9, 2019

Community Safety as First Priority



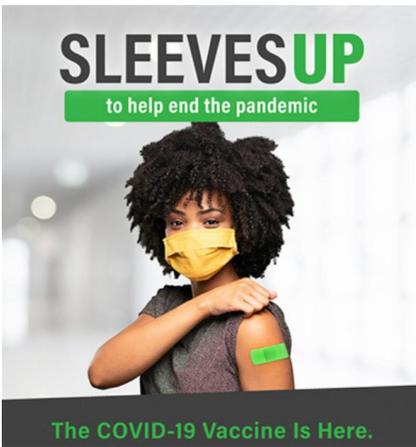
As teachers, students, and families returned to campuses in the midst of outbreaks of the Delta variant of COVID-19, we have focused on aspects of campus life that can alleviate the concerns within the community of in person learning. Keeping community health and safety as the first priority, we gathered our School Reopening Task Forces to look at the conditions necessary on school grounds and buses to make sure we were doing

everything possible. Among the many areas of focus for us, the following stand out as the greatest to

communicate and stress: 1) **Mandatory facial coverings**—Facial coverings are required on all school buses and indoors on campuses where large groups are gathered; 2) **Pool Testing**—Beginning the week of August 23, students opted in and staff will participate in weekly pool testing with follow-up individual testing to identify the presence of COVID and minimize its spread through necessary isolating and quarantining; 3) **Vaccination partnerships**—We have partnered with our school district partners and Native Health throughout the summer to offer vaccination clinics for the community; 4) **Staff pave the way for the school community**—Vaccination will be the greatest measure for preventing spread of COVID and reducing serious illness, and Osborn staff is leading the way with more than 90% of surveyed staff having been vaccinated! We will be focusing over the next couple months on increasing the number of



vaccinated eligible students, which includes all of the middle school. Additionally, we are preparing for when a vaccine is available for ages 11 and under to host vaccination clinics in each of our elementary communities in Osborn.



New Logo, New Website

With the new school year comes a new look! Partnering with [30th Century Graphic Design](#) and longtime graphic artist and friend to Osborn, [Toni Shiles](#), we launched our new district logo. Check out the [marketing page](#) on our website to see the different looks of the logo design. Speaking of websites, also be sure to check out the new website just launched this past month. Digital Marketing and Communications Specialist, [Michael Nilsson](#), will continue to add and work with school sites on regular updates and additions to the website. We

OSBORN

School District #8

Integrity • Equity • Joy • Growth • Relationships

want our new brand and identity to be highly recognizable to the community. We have received so many positive comments on the new logo and the inclusion of the district core values embedded within. We are also looking to expand our social media presence to communicate with families, as well as share our programs, stories of success, and exciting news with prospective families looking for an amazing district to bring their children. Help us grow and share thoughts and comments on how we can continue to improve our image and projection outward.



Launch of New Osborn Programs



Osborn Community iSchool
Phoenix, AZ

The new school year has brought two new programs into Osborn schools. **Osborn Community iSchool (OCiS)** is the home for just over 200 students who have chosen to continue the 2021-2022 school year in virtual learning. Students enrolled in Osborn Community iSchool (OCiS) will receive a mix of live and recorded instruction from dedicated Osborn teachers who will be using Osborn curriculum. OCiS will operate on the same calendar as our other schools and will be open to Kindergarten through 8th grade students. OCiS students will learn from home through Google Classroom, using a district-issued device, with continuous access to resources and online



instruction. Like all Osborn schools, the OCiS will offer social-emotional support, as well as accommodations, enrichment and support services for unique student needs. Click [here](#) to learn more about OCiS. This year also is the launching point for our new **Montessori Program at Montecito Community School**. The Early Childhood level, for children ages 3-5, encourages preschoolers to explore and discover, to collaborate with classmates, and to take ownership of their education. The Montessori Method encourages self-directed learning that promotes self-



confidence, independent thought and action, and critical thinking, while fostering social-emotional and intellectual growth. The Osborn School District and Montecito Community School echo Maria Montessori's vision of a world that values equity and diversity while allowing children to grow into the best possible version of themselves. Click [here](#) to learn more about Osborn's Montessori Program and for information of how to enroll now!



Osborn School District Educational Foundation Grant Programs



The **Osborn School District Educational Foundation (OSDEF)** will be kicking off the 2021-2022 grant program in the coming week. Learn about their Educator Funding Opportunities [here](#) to hear about the "Request For Funding" and "Dr. Wilma J. Basnett Mini-Grant" Programs. Pictured below is a wonderful addition to the Encanto School playground in a Request For Funding grant written by Encanto Art Teacher **Rebecca Greenberg**. The "Musical Playground" grant, funded in December 2020 is a demonstration of OSDEF's commitment to the arts, children's discovery and their mission to mission is to encourage innovation, promote healthy campuses and support creative experiences in and out of the Osborn School District classroom. The foundation work is aligned to the Osborn School District Core Value of Equity, by providing support and funding to supplement traditional funding sources to insure that all Osborn students have a comprehensive educational experience regardless of their socioeconomic status. Also be sure to read the August 2021 Newsletter [here](#).



OSDEF
Osborn School District
Educational Foundation



School Spirit Video Winner!



At our district convocation, sites within the district were asked to submit a video between 30 seconds and 3 minutes that somehow demonstrated school spirit and eagerness to kick off the 2021-22 school year. 8 videos were submitted, representing our 8 sites: Clarendon, Encanto, iSchool, Longview, OMS, Montecito, Solano, and the District Office. The submissions included a cheer, a song, a TikTok, and school-made videos. The submissions were made to the official judges of the contest—the membership of the Osborn School District Educational Foundation. Each member could score 3 points for their favorite, 2 points for second place, and 1 point for third place. The total tally would be declared the winner and take home our first School Spirit Award for the year. The trophy will be presented next week. It was a super close battle, but coming in 3rd place is the District Office. In 2nd place is Encanto. And the first place, Spirit Award goes to **Clarendon School**. Here is the [winning submission](#).



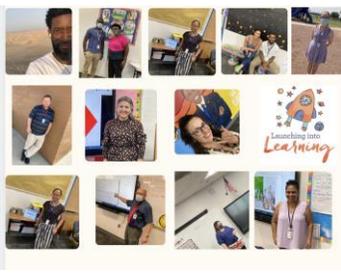
Osborn Cafeterias Serve Up New Offerings

The **Child Nutrition Department** is always looking to serve up nutritious and delicious meals for our students. They are also looking to stay fresh with new menu items and enhancing the healthiness of meals by studying labels and making replacements to have cleaner labels (how? Read [here](#) to find out!) Two new menu items hit our cafeterias in the first two weeks. The first is calabacitas (pictured here served alongside a delicious bean tostada), a wonderful Mexican vegetable dish made with zucchini, corn, tomatoes, and topped with cheese. Check out this dish and the process made in creating the whole meal on Osborn Child Nutrition's [Instagram page](#). The second was a flatbread pizza. Pizza has been a longterm staple on the Osborn menu. But the clean label initiative has led to more scratch cooking and changes in ingredients, resulting in less artificial and highly processed food. The new flatbread pizza was served to all returning staff at the Osborn convocation at the start of school. Both of these meals were a hit with students, proving that nutritious and delicious belong together and can be recognized by the youngest of palates. Check out the amazing August menu and bookmark the Osborn menu page for a listing of items, taking note of the 5 days with new menu items, gluten-free and nut-free item days, and 5 days of vegetarian meals.



Welcome New Teachers to Osborn

New teachers in the Osborn School District were welcomed by the Governing Board at their regular meeting on Tuesday, August 17. It has been a wonderful start to the new year for our new staff.



Solano



Board Meetings

- Tuesday, September 14: Osborn School District Educational Foundation Meeting, 5:00PM
- Tuesday, September 21: Governing Board Regular Meeting, 5:00PM
- Monday, September 27: Special Meeting/Retreat of Osborn Governing Board and Administration, all day event