



Oakbrook Elementary School

Where there are Opportunities for Everyone to Succeed



Grizzly Times

Kim Boutin, Principal

Rachel Mahaffey, Assistant Principal

Kimberly Golden, Assistant Principal Intern

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

(843) 821-1165

oes.ddtwo.org

Volume 22



UPCOMING DATES

02/01 - Teacher work-day
NO SCHOOL

02/02 - Students return in the hybrid model

02/08 - SIC Meeting. Please email Cat Watson cwatson@dorchester2.k12.sc.us for the link if you are interested in joining.

School Board Meeting 6:00pm

02/10 - Report cards go home for school based students. VA report cards will be emailed / mailed

02/15 - Students return to school full-time and face-to-face

02/18 - Terrific Kid Ceremony. 6:00pm
Parents will be emailed a link to join the celebration if their student is chosen as Terrific Kid.

Principal's Ponderings

In the past year, we have certainly dealt with quite a bit of change. As I read the passage below, it made me think of the strong community at OES. We look forward to the second semester and are always grateful for your continued support.

All of us experience change in our lives. Change is the one constant in our lives. There are changes that we look forward to and change that we fear. However, one thing is for sure. Things will not stay the same no matter how much we would like them to. When a life change occurs, we have two choices in how to respond. We can despair that a change has come and assume that things will be worse, or we can look with excitement at the new possibilities for personal growth and change in self that the change presents

Source: <https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poems/life/change/>

Kim Boutin

MASKS ARE A MUST!

Please remember that **everyone** who enters the school building **must** wear a mask. This is a district requirement for all teachers, staff, students and visitors. Dorchester District Two has provided masks for everyone including students to wear. Please make sure your student has a mask before they leave for school.

IMPORTANT NEWS



On January 25th, the DD2 School Board met and approved the plan put forward by Mr. Pye and District staff. Students will return in the hybrid model on February 2nd. (Monday, February 1st is a teacher work day.) We will utilize this model through Friday, February 12th. On February 15th, students will return to school full-time and face-to-face. All safety precautions will be in force and maintained as much as is possible. Further information is available on the district [webpage](#).

Message from DD2:

As you are aware, all students have been assigned an email address by the District for use in contacting their teachers and submitting assignments. In an effort to ensure students have access to the South Carolina State Department of Education sponsored program ENGAGE South Carolina, students will now be able to send and receive emails from those involved with the program. Families looking for additional support for their students during this school year can sign up directly at

<https://parentssc.graduationalliance.com/>

Congratulations!

Wednesday, January 27th, we named our Teacher of the Year, Rookie Teacher of the Year and Star Performer of the Year for the 2020 - 2021 school year. These hard working folks were nominated and voted upon by their peers and we are very proud of their hard work! They will represent OES very well at the District level. We are very pleased to announce our winners:

Star Performer - Betty Cheeseright

Rookie of the Year - Brittany Hansen

Teacher of the Year - Daniel Bryant

Congratulations to all of nominees and our winners for this year. OES truly is blessed with the BEST!

Golden's Rules for Strong Parent Involvement

Children are more successful in school when parents are involved in their children's education



Participating in parenting education programs will give you the opportunity to learn valuable information and strategies to support your children, as well as to gain support from other parents.

1) Make sure you are a part of our Oakbrook Elementary School Family and Community Facebook page. This will ensure that you have the most update information from the school.



2) Join the Parent Teacher Association (PTA)- Get involved in fundraising programs and events to promote and improve school programs and well-being of students. Email Lauren Waldren (PTA President) laurenkeiter@yahoo.com to join and figure out how you can get involved. The PTA has several events coming up still this school year: Boosterthon, Teacher Appreciation, and Spirit Nights.

3) Join School Improvement Council (SIC) - SIC is a group of parents and community members that work with the principal to develop, review and evaluate school improvement programs and school budgets. They meet monthly virtually to plan. Email Cat Watson cwatson@dorchester2.k12.sc.us if you wish to join.

4) Dorchester School District Two Parent and Family Engagement Centers - These centers are a free resource conveniently located throughout the district to provide support and services to Dorchester School District Two's students, parents and families. Each center provides a variety of award winning, engaging and exciting programs and resources to help parents and family members support their child's success in school.

Resources include:

- Books, games, iPad applications and activities to support academic standards
 - Parent liaisons to work with children, parents and families using educational materials
 - School sponsored parent workshops and trainings
 - Scheduled story time throughout the month virtually
- Scheduled interactive station times with hands-on learning at each center and virtually

Visit us at any of our four centers located at; Eagle Nest Elementary School, Knightsville Elementary School, Joseph R. Pye Elementary School, or Spann Elementary School.

5) Maintain open communication with your school, and work together to develop opportunities for your student's success. At home, parents can provide an environment to help their children to complete homework assignments and to continue the learning process. Make sure you are receiving Mrs. Boutin's weekly emails and any communication from your child's teacher.

Counselors' Corner

We have a great resource for parents and students to use at home. Check out our S'more web page for great resources for social/emotional learning. The links focus on our character trait and wellness trait for the month. Reach out if you have suggestions or comments! ☺

<https://www.smores.com/7jsnh>

Nurse's Notes

February is American Heart Month!

Get heart healthy once and for all by following the Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH) eating plan. It does not require any special foods and can also help lower your blood pressure!

Eat more of these:

Fruits and vegetables

Whole-grains

Low-fat dairy

Poultry and fish

Nuts and legumes

Non-tropical vegetable oils

Limit these:

Saturated and trans-fats

Sodium

Red meat (if you do eat red meat, select leaner cuts)

Sweets and sugar-sweetened beverages

Get the whole family involved:

-Find new recipes to try together

-Cook heart healthy versions of family favorites

-Encourage everyone to help out in the kitchen as a family...kids are more willing to try new foods if they have helped prepare it!

For more information go to <https://www.heart.org/en/health-topics/high-blood-pressure/changes-you-can-make-to-manage-high-blood-pressure/managing-blood-pressure-with-a-heart-healthy-diet>

Yay for Yearbooks!

Our yearbook staff has been hard at work getting this year's yearbook ready for our students! This year, yearbooks are available for purchase for \$25 and can be ordered at

www.jostensyearbooks.com

Many thanks to our Business Partners for this school year - Heaven's Best Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning; Papa John's Pizza; Dr. Robert Beebe, Chick-Fil-A, Swasty Orthodontics, Publix and Ashley Cagle of Trademark Properties!
We rely on our business partners so much and appreciate all they do for us!