



# OSD Newsletter

## Every Child, Every Day

April 3, 2015

### Note from the Principals

Denyse Woods & Greg Mendenhall

The end of the school year will be here before we know it, and there are TONS of things going on. There are seasonal parties, student celebrations, and much more. With the end of the year also comes end of the year state mandated standardized assessments. We have a small window of time to give assessments, and while the particular day of assessments is dependent on arrival of materials, and student attendance, please try to ensure that your child is at school every day when able. Below are the end of the year assessment windows. Specific testing dates will be available closer to the actual testing window. April 13-May 1 students in grades 3-8 will be taking the end of the year assessments for ELA and math. Between April 20 and May 1 students in grade 3 will be taking the OAA for reading. Lastly between May 4 and May 15, students in grades 4 and 6 will be taking the end of the year test for social studies and student in grades 5 and 8 will be taking the end of the year science test.

We will try our best to send home updates with schedule changes, and we ask that you please remember to call the school office ((v) 614-728-1424 or (vp) 614-678-5407) and report when your child will have a different schedule than normal. If they are out ill, are planning on staying after school, or will be picked up early. This will ensure that things run smoothly and all parties are aware of schedule changes.

Thank you for all you do to ensure that your child, and OSD is successful. Have an enjoyable spring break with your child!

~ Denyse and Greg

April 2015				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2	3 Early Dismissal at Noon PreK spring party
6 Spring Break No School	7 Spring Break No School	8 Spring Break No School	9 Spring Break No School	10 Spring Break No School
13	14 PTA meeting 4:15pm	15	16	17 MS S.O.M Breakfast
20	21	22 Poetry Night 6:30pm	23	24
27	28	29	30	

May 2015				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1 HS Prom Weekend
Sun. May 3 PTA Carnival	4 5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25 No School Memorial Day	26	27	28 Elem and MS Awards Day	29 Final/ Graduation Day

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# School Updates

## Preschool

Megan Key & Leslie MacFarland

Preschool has been crazy busy learning about life cycles of plants and animals. We planted our own lettuce and we are anxiously awaiting sprouts. We are becoming experts on identifying living and non-living things. Just ask us when you see us next. March is the perfect time of year to go on a nature walk with your little one! Identify living and non-living things and observe everything from mud puddles to new blooms. We have been working on spelling our names and have completed the uppercase alphabet. Now we are learning lowercase letters too!

It's almost spring break! ■



## Elementary

Kaleigh Bowling, Gretchen Douglas, Chris Kuhns, Emily McDermott, Veronica Shonkwiler, Morgan Sipka, Jessica Sloan, Jeani Thomas

### K/1<sup>st</sup> grade

In social studies, the K/1 students have been learning about where we live and have worked on our planet, continent, country, state, and city. They have also practiced reading maps and giving one another directions in order to navigate using a map. In science, the students have learned about the earth and how the sun affects us and our surroundings. They have learned about different kinds of weather and how things are formed such as rainbows, storms-tornadoes and hurricanes, different kinds of clouds and types of precipitation.

### 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grade

This month, we have continued our Economics unit by learning about how to plan for a business, manage our money, and learn some new vocabulary. We plan to help Bill Costello with the plant sale by starting and caring for seeds and help with marketing. In science we learned about all about air and the affects that it can have on the weather. We made different tools to measure the wind and we also made our own tornado in a bottle. After we learned all about air and what it can do each student was able to become a meteorologist and give the class a weather forecast.

### 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade

Fourth and fifth graders have been working hard! Fourth graders made their government "trees" which now adorn the hallway by our classroom. March brought a comparison of the US Constitution to Ohio's Constitution and completion of a Venn diagram to show what they know. Currently, we are discussing the

*[Elementary continued from page 2]*

NW Ordinance. Fifth graders worked on learning about and then making bar graphs, line graphs, and circle graphs. Immigration was studied with a look at the process that occurred at Ellis Island. We just began a government unit on different government systems around the world. We are all looking forward to spring break!!

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade scientists finished their Electricity unit, which was exciting! Following after, we started learning about landforms. The kiddos will get the opportunity to make their chosen landform out of a shoebox, which we are really looking forward to. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade scientists have been learning about the solar system and how each planet has their own unique characteristics. The kiddos have been making their own solar system. They will be bringing their solar system home soon, so keep an eye out for them!

### **Chris' class (MD K-5)**

Feeling energy already!? Spring Fever!? Our class focused on Energy and Matter this month. We learned about nutrition that helps our bodies to gain energy. We also learned where we get electricity from. We started our unit on life cycle of plant, human being, and animal in middle of March. We will start to identify community helpers in our upcoming month. As for our literature, we focused on how our seasons change, using words along with pictures. We are looking forward to our upcoming trips to COSI and Columbus Zoo next month! ■

### **April Dates to Remember—Elem. specific**

*April 3*

K-2 field trip to CCEC  
3-5 Spring party by PTA

*April 17*

Elem. field trip to COSI

*April 23*

Elem. field trip to the Columbus Zoo

*April/May*

ELA and Math Testing (grades 3-8)

### **May Dates to Remember - Elem. specific**

*May 3*

PTA Spring Carnival

*May 8*

Elem. field trip to the Victoria Theater

*May*

OAA Reading Testing (grade 3)

Science and Social Studies Testing (grades 4, 5, 6,8)

*May 28*

Elementary School Awards Day

*May 29*

Final day of school. Noon dismissal.

## **Alex's Lemonade Stand**

The Ohio School for the Deaf elementary students and staff will host our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Alex's Lemonade Stand during the week of May 11<sup>th</sup> from 12pm – 1:30pm daily in front of Panera Bread (4519 N. High St. Columbus, OH 43214). This year all donations from Alex's Lemonade Stand will be made in honor of Dr. Ed Corbett (former superintendent of the Ohio School for the Deaf) and Cynthia Johnson (former superintendent of the Ohio State School for the Blind).

You can stop by our lemonade stand at the Panera Bread on N. High St for a cup of delicious lemonade or you can make a donation on our website <http://www.alexlemonade.org/mypage/1122205>

For those of you who have never heard of Alex's Lemonade Stand, it is a foundation which evolved from a young cancer patient's front yard lemonade stand to a nationwide fundraising movement to find a cure for childhood cancer. Since Alexandra "Alex" Scott (1996-2004) set up her front-yard stand at the age of four, more than \$25 million has been raised towards fulfilling her dream of finding a cure for all children with cancer.

The Ohio School for the Deaf has earned more than \$7,000 for the organization since our first Stand in 2009. ■



# Middle School

Susie Bachtel, Brooke Hohlbaugh, Phyllis Moore, Michele Ogden, Terry Stewart



The middle school students did the Pi activity with two different sizes hula hoops, small bowl, Frisbee, and cup. They used a string to measure the circumference of each item, then used that same piece of string to show that they can

measure the diameter 3 times and have just a little left over (.14). We also decorated the pizza board with the Pi sign and put them up in the hallway.

This month, middle school students had several career awareness presentations. Representatives from Columbus State Community College spoke with the students about what college means. Columbus Colony Elderly Care staff also came to OSD to present to the middle school students about what types of jobs they offer and what is required to have a job there.



Special Class: We learned about the lifestyle of early American. We

also learned about Indian's home. We studied teepee and longhouse. We also built teepees and longhouses.



LEGO Robotic club has been a blast! Again, the advanced students are currently working on the steering part of their mobile robot. They are using dual ultrasonic attachments to help detect the wall so the robot could steer away from the walls. It has been a very challenging lesson for all students.

Congratulations to the February Students of the Month! Students who earned the reward got to watch a movie and have popcorn. The students are:

Chris Adams, Jacorius Harvey, Amin Ali, Andy McGraw, Nate Greene, Nathan Jones, Averie Panozzo, Jordyn Snapp, Mierra Robinson, Chloe Kuhns, Darrell Taylor, Guled Ali, Andrew Bonilla, RaShaud Williams, Allyson Gugliotti, and Jonathan Almendarez. ■



**Thank you Donors!**

Thank you to all of our Middle School Space Camp donors that have given in big and small ways, to make it possible for some of our students to attend Space Camp on April 26–May 1.

A huge thank you to our top donors: OSDAA, Sorenson, and the Columbus Foundation. ■

## April Dates to Remember—M.S. specific

*April 3*

*Noon Dismissal for Spring Break*

*April/May*

ELA and Math Testing (grades 3-8)

*April 17*

MS Student of the Month gathering

MS Clintonville Breakfast

## May Dates to Remember - M.S. specific

*May*

ELA and Math Testing (grades 3-8)

Science and Social Studies Testing (grades 4, 5, 6,8)

*May 3*

PTA Spring Carnival

*May 27*

M.S. end of the year trip

*May 28*

Middle School Awards Day

*May 29*

Final day of school. Noon dismissal.

## High School

Tamara Burnett-Penny, Bill Costello, Mary Ellen Cox, Anthony Coy-Gonzalez, Charisse Heine, Jeff Jones, Melissa Lago-Jones, Angie Layman, Amy Massey Norton, Laura Smith, Kim Sutton

### March Madness with Spring Tests

For two weeks, the freshmen students took a newly designed state test called Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) which phased-out the Ohio Graduation Test for sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

### Volunteering is rewarding!

High school students and teachers went on a field trip, March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, to volunteer at Groveport's Mid-Ohio Food Bank. Thousands of people go hungry in our community every day. Since 1980, the Mid-Ohio Food Bank has worked with grocers, food companies, Ohio farmers, the USDA, and community partners to obtain food and distribute it to 625 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, after-school programs, and senior housing sites, across central and eastern Ohio. It's these food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, after-school programs, and senior housing sites that ensure the food gets delivered to the people who need it most, across 20 county service agencies. The Mid-Ohio Food Bank along with its partners make an incredible impact by providing 121,625 meals each day. Our students and teachers gained valuable lessons in helping others who are less fortunate, which resulted in them feeling good about what their efforts. Everyone has stated each year that they cannot wait to go back again the following year.

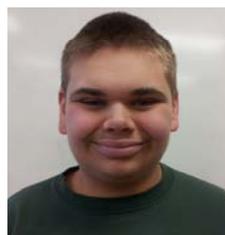


### Special Recognition of two students

Each month the HS teachers vote on exemplary students. Sometimes it's in recognition of their model behavior, academic success, and/or cooperation with peers, teachers and administrators. Here are the students selected for January and February of 2015:



**January:** Doug Lenhart, a senior who is well respected by teachers and peers for his encouragement of his peers to behave appropriate in school, greet visitors nicely, and ask questions during school assemblies. He was on the honor roll for the second quarter of his studies and very active in extracurricular activities by being the facility manager for sports.



**February:** Kaleb Crooks, a freshman who has demonstrated obedience with the school rules. He has worked diligently in all of his classes to ensure he meets his academic requirements, and made it on the honor roll for the second quarter. He gets along with his peers and has shown respect for his teachers by being responsible for his school work and activities.

### Anthony's Leadership Class

South Solon High School's ASL 3 class (hearing students) visited OSD in March. The OSD Leadership Development class planned the school tour, hosted games/ice-breaker activities and facilitated group discussions. The program entailed information about deaf culture and history as well as provided opportunity for friendship with deaf people. Our OSD students, who are the face of our community, made us very proud as they represented OSD in such a strong and positive way. These visiting students left with a clearer

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*[High School continued from page 5]*

understanding of what it meant to be deaf and what it meant to be a Spartan!

### **Youth Leadership Camp (YLC)**

The National Association of the Deaf (NAD) have been hosting Youth Leadership Camp (YLC) for nearly 50 years, a 4-week intensive summer camp program for 64 deaf and hard of hearing girls and boys who completed their freshmen to junior years of high school. The purpose of the program is to foster scholarship, leadership and citizenship skills in a natural environment. OSD is proud that two of our high school juniors, JohnMichael Taylor and Jenny Mendis, were selected out of many applicants throughout the country to attend their 46<sup>th</sup> camp from June 23 – July 20, 2015 at Camp Talooli in Stayton, Oregon.

### **Academic Bowl Update**

The Midwest Regional Academic Bowl competition was originally scheduled to be held during the weekend of Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> at the Kentucky School for the Deaf in Danville, Kentucky. However, due to extreme weather conditions, the competition was postponed to March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The format of the competition changed to competing in two matches through videoconferencing instead of in-person with 16 different schools together in one place. Winners of 5 schools out of 16 schools with highest score would be selected to compete in the National Academic Bowl competition at Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. OSD participated in the Midwest Academic Bowl competition and were not selected for the top-5 schools, however OSD players had outstanding sportsmanship adjusting well to the new format.



Among the OSD students who participated in the competition are Zachary Davenport, Gregory Rinker, JohnMichael Taylor, and Jenny Mendis.

OSD is proud that Zachary and Gregory, who are seniors, have committed in the Academic Bowl for four years.

OSD was selected by the National Academic Bowl Administrative Team to host the next Midwest Regional Academic Bowl on December 3 – 5, 2015. Sixteen schools which have deaf and/or hard of hearing students in the Midwest region will come to Columbus to participate in the competition. Be on the lookout for information seeking volunteers to participate in the competition. ■

#### **May Dates to Remember - H.S. specific**

*May 1 (Open Weekend)*

*High School Prom*

*May 3*

*PTA Spring Carnival*

*May 25-27*

*Senior Trip*

*May 29*

*Last day of school/Graduation Day*

## **2015-16 Academic Partnership**

We have some very exciting news to share! A partnership with Whetstone High School (WHS) is in the works for the 2015-2016 academic year. Such a partnership benefits Ohio School for the Deaf and their students greatly, as students would have the opportunity to take a few courses at WHS with hearing peers. For students interested in taking courses at Whetstone High School next year, students must meet the requirements, parents must approve their child(ren) going to Whetstone High School, and the local educational agency must be willing to cover the costs of an American Sign Language interpreter. Whetstone High School's class schedule for the 2015-2016 academic year will be shared sometime after spring break, at which time students can select classes they would be interested in taking.

For more information on the requirements or about the collaboration with Whetstone High School, please contact Gregory Mendenhall, High School Principal, at [mendenhall@osd.oh.gov](mailto:mendenhall@osd.oh.gov) or 614-678-5643.

Enjoy Spring break! ■

# 4Plus and Transition Updates



Nancy Swisher, Bill Newman

The 4PLUS spotlight is on Tashiana Green Jones.

Tashiana is a first year 4PLUS student. She attended OSD as a senior last year. She is originally from Saint Rita's in Cincinnati, Ohio. Tashiana has been working as a one-on-one aide for a middle school student. Her work evaluations have been very positive and the comments say that she is positive and motivated. Tashiana has been saving her money to buy a car. Tashiana asked for support from the 4PLUS staff during the car buying and acquiring car insurance process. Tashiana is now a new used car owner. The 4PLUS staff is very proud of her work ethic and accomplishments. ▪



Tashiana with her new car.

## Transition Updates

Sheri Uhrin, Transition Services Coordinator

On March 4 & 5, 2015 Ohio School for the Deaf high school students had the opportunity to learn more about Ohio Means Jobs. High school students had the opportunity to register and research information available at Ohio Means Job K – 12. Students with teacher support registered for an account and were able to take a tour of the site to learn more about it, complete an interest survey and learn about different kinds of jobs and what kind of budget is needed for the future. This site also has information for adults looking for a job [www.ohiomeansjobs.com](http://www.ohiomeansjobs.com) check it out!

**OhioMeansJobs K-12 the place to plan your future.**

**Students can: (Adults can too J )**

Get started by trying one of these:

- Take the [guided tour](#) and complete recommended activities
- [Create](#) your online backpack to save and view information
- Take a [career interest survey](#) to learn about yourself
- Explore [career information](#) by a keyword or industry
- Build a [budget](#) to learn about the cost of living on your own



## OhioMeansJobs

**Looking for a job?  
Looking for workers?**

**Visit [OhioMeansJobs.com](http://OhioMeansJobs.com)  
to find job opportunities and  
skilled workers across Ohio**

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## Athletic Director Memo

Bill Estes

We had winter athletic awards presentation on Friday March 27th. The award winners are:

### Cheerleading

Spartan Spirit Award:  
Cameron Smith



### Boys Basketball

Coaches Award:  
Zachary Davenport

Most Dedicated:  
Ephraim Arnold

Most Improved:  
Cameron Jackson

Sportsmanship: Mason Zajackowski



### Girls Basketball

Together Everyone Achieves More (T.E.A.M.) Awards to all players for being part of successful season including Spartan Classic Champions, Kentucky Classic Co-Champions and CSSD Runner-Up and 13-4 season record.

Recipients of the awards are:

Abby Aites

Sheonda Bass

Hannah Carter

Mariah Conley

Nicole Greene

Jenny Mendis

Savannah Pridemore

Brerauna Shakir

Dominique Willingham



The DeafDigest Sports announced that Dominique Willingham is selected on 2014-15 All-American team for her stellar performance as she averaged 11 points per game and 13 rebounds a game for the Lady Spartans including a career-high 27 rebounds against Torah Academy.

### Track News

Girls and boys track teams are practicing hard for our April 14<sup>th</sup> season debut at Cardington High School competing against Gilead Christian Academy and other schools. We travel to Kentucky School for the Deaf to participate in annual Berg-Seeger meet where 14 other deaf schools compete on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. Coaches Dawn Johnson and Kareem Harris are working our athletes hard. ■



Get the latest OSD schedules, scores, news, photos & videos at the OSD Spartans official athletics website [www.osdsports.com](http://www.osdsports.com). You'll have access to our full line of Spartan apparel at the online spirit store.



# Reading Tips and Specialists

## Math Tips

Melissa Lago-Jones

### Pi Day Celebration

Students and staff from elementary, middle school and high school celebrated Pi Day a little early on March 13th, 2015. We wanted to emphasize the importance of this day in history as March 14, 2015 at 9:26:53 would represent the closest value of pi --

EVER!  $3.141592653 = \pi$

Each department joined staff in the gym for fun, 'circle-themed' games and prizes. Students competed in Pi Hole, Bulls 'Pi', Human Bowling and Pi Curling; while also learning the importance of Pi in the math world. To top it off, OSD provided PIE for all of our students at lunch time! Thanks to teachers/staff who volunteered their time to prepare for this event...a great time was had by all! ■



## Specialists

Bobbi Colatruglio, Leanna Goss, Susan McTyiere, Rae Ann Brown, Miranda Walker, Ann Ramsey

Reading aloud to your child is a perfect way for them not only to build oral language vocabulary, but also exposes them to the rhythm, pace, intensity, and rhyme of spoken language; all foundational components of helping children learn to read. Following is a list of books that contain these properties for your child to enjoy: Jump, Frog, Jump by Robert Kalan; Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? By Bill Martin, Jr. and Eric Carle; We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Helen Oxenbury; Pete the Cat and His Magic Sunglasses (or any Pete the Cat book) by Kimberly and James Dean; and Ten in the Bed by Penny Dale. There are some very good Apps available for children also that can help build listening and language skills: Motion Songs by FAOX I/S; Sounds by Different Roads To Learning; Phonics Island by 2-2 Learn; Language by Tribal Nova; and Old MacDonald by RIDBC.

Summer is a great time to bond with your child, read stories to your child, have your child read aloud to you and spend time together listening to the sounds of summer. Pointing out things such as leaves rustling in the wind, the sound of water fountains or rain falling on the roof. All of these activities will be more meaningful auditorily when children have their "listening" equipment in excellent working order. If you already have a Dri Aid Kit, get it ready for the summer by replacing the desiccant brick. Use it nightly to help remove moisture from your child's equipment, which will help to prolong the life of your child's equipment. If you don't have one, consider investing in one to help your child's equipment stay in good working condition. While your child is home this summer, it's also a good time to connect with your child's

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### Columbus State Community

College came to speak with high school and middle school students about attending college and what a community college is, what kind of services are available for a student that is Deaf/ Hard of Hearing. They also shared information about the differences between high school and college regarding responsibilities as college students, self-advocacy, and their legal rights to get the services for college success. ■



### Senior Apartment Living Program has started for current high school students!

OSD Senior apartment living program is a collaborative effort between the educational and residential programs to give senior students an opportunity to experience independent living. Students have an opportunity to live in an on campus apartment during the school week. Students manage their time, prepare menu's for the week, grocery shop for the week and prepare breakfast and dinner daily (lunch is still in the OSD Cafeteria due to time constraints). Students learn about reading rental ads, rental applications and leases. Students are evaluated on a variety of independent living tasks. ■

### Summer Jobs 2015?

Just a reminder to set up an appointment with your Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD)/Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (BVR) while students are at home over spring break. Summer youth programs are starting to fill up. If you are not sure who your child's BVR counselor is, please contact Sheri Uhrin, OSD Transition services Coordinator at [Uhrin@osd.oh.gov](mailto:Uhrin@osd.oh.gov) or 614.728.1419.

## Post-Graduation Resources



### WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?

Students will be starting to use this tool as a career exploration learning more about themselves (Who am I?), what do I want? And how do I get there? Introducing [Map It: What Comes Next?](#) *Map It* is a free, online, interactive training. It is designed for transition-aged students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

*Map It* uses peer role models to:

- Demonstrate how individual differences lead to personalized goals and life choices.
- Allow students to learn from one another.
- Assist in development of self-determination.

Explain how to develop informed transition plans.



Offers discounts to OSD Community! Check out the attached flyer for more information. ALL OSD high school students are STRONGLY encouraged to have their own personal alarm clock! Thank you to Harris Communication to make this opportunity available. [www.harriscomm.com](http://www.harriscomm.com)



Open House dates:  
Friday April 3, 2015 & April 24, 2015

Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing students who visit can apply FREE!  
To register: [www.rit.edu/NTID/OpenHouse](http://www.rit.edu/NTID/OpenHouse). Or by calling 585-475-6700 or 585-743-1366 VP



Open House Date: April 13, 2015 (Monday)

ACT administered on Sunday, April 12

To Register: [visitors.clercenter@gallaudet.edu](mailto:visitors.clercenter@gallaudet.edu)  
202.651.5855 (V/TTY)  
866-204-0504 (VP)

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# Specials

Kaleigh Bowling, Bill Costello, Stephanie Smith- Bowman, Miranda Walker, Bobbi Colatruglio, Angie Layman, Nona Pierce, Perry Mott, Dawn Johnson.

In the Learning through Language and Literacy Specials class the elementary and middle school students have been making ice cream! Each class made home-made ice cream two different ways... in an ice cream machine and by hand using plastic bags. They worked on the following target vocabulary words: mix, freeze, scoop, cone, and syrup. They also worked on English grammar targets: present progressive (*-ing*) and prepositions (*in* versus *on*). They really enjoyed making and of course eating their homemade ice cream! If you'd like to make it at home... ask your student for the recipe and they can show you how it's done! ■



## Tip from the Nurse

Diana Dick, Tobbi Valentine, Tammy Woodyard

### Spring Allergy Information

It is spring and that means allergy season is here in Ohio. Many people who suffer with seasonal allergies may begin to experience nasal congestion, sneezing, itchy and watery eyes, coughing, or itchy throat. So, what can you do to cut down on problems from allergies without medicine?

Allergists say to keep the windows in your house and car closed and instead use air conditioning, shower and change clothing after being outside and exposed to pollen, and avoid areas with freshly cut grass.

Now, two of the most widely prescribed allergy drugs, Flonase and Nasacort, are available without a prescription. These corticosteroids are sprayed into the nose to relieve the discomfort of allergies and nasal problems. Before this medicine is given to a child, discuss the benefits and risks of using it with your doctor. Follow the doctor's directions very carefully and use caution in patients with asthma as nasal corticosteroids may make this condition worse. ■



*[Specialists continued from page 9]*

clinical audiologist for any equipment updates, mappings or new earmolds, if needed. Summer appointments tend to book up quickly, so consider contacting your child's clinical audiologist now to schedule summer appointments. We hope to see everyone back in the fall with equipment in good repair, ready for more learning after a relaxing summer break! ■

# OSD SPARTAN-PTA Page

## OSD Spartan-PTA Mission Statement

The OSD Spartan-PTA exists to empower families and school staff to serve students by creating and hosting events and by independently organizing in ways that will elevate a school spirit where every child might reach their fullest potential.

## Introducing the OSD Spartan - PTA

### *Background & Need*

Part of being a growing group is the responsibility of adding the right structure and organizing finances for the group. The Parent Staff Association (PSA) at OSD is in just such a place of growth. Recognizing this, we researched the idea of organizing ourselves independently and we researched partnering with a larger umbrella organization.

### *PTA Solution*

What we found was that the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) has a long history of supporting school groups with a mature system for growing, with membership benefits that include training resources and participation in national programs, and with a 501c3 nonprofit status that allows maximum flexibility in fundraising and projects.

### *Transition*

In the Fall of 2014, the Parent-Staff Association (PSA) signed on with the PTA-OH and officially became the "OSD Spartan – PTA". Different parts of the transition will be ongoing throughout the year. We have an application in with the IRS, a membership charter, and organizational by-laws to customize and adopt.

### *Implications*

What this means is that we will be learning and implementing a lot of new things for our group. At times, this may look a little like stumbling forward, but please be excited with us!

Paid members will begin voting on big decisions. With our 501c3 status we can apply for grants and programs that can help us fund bigger projects. If you have any questions or thoughts to share, please feel free to attend our OSD Spartan – PTA meetings in the Multipurpose Room at OSD. We meet every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday from 4:15PM to 5:15PM. Or you can email our President, Luis Reyes Jr. at [LeReyesjr@gmail.com](mailto:LeReyesjr@gmail.com).

## Wanna Come to a Meeting?

Meetings happen 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month in the Multi-Purpose Room at OSD from 4:15 to 5:15 PM.

To receive PSA Meeting Minutes via email, contact Brad Pritts, [Bpritts75@gmail.com](mailto:Bpritts75@gmail.com).

## PSA Fundraiser & School Spirit



**Kids- \$15**

**Adults (s-xl)- \$20**

**Adults (xxl)- \$25**

Interested in showing your OSD pride? You can order the above shirts and 25% of the proceeds come directly to the PSA!

Pick-up an order form at the school office.

For your convenience, there is an order form attached to this month's newsletter.



We will be hosting our PSA Spring Carnival on **Sunday May 3, 2015**. This event takes lots of volunteers, we will be collecting items for our silent auction, and could use as much support as we can gather. If you are willing to help, please email Denyse Woods, [dwoods@osd.oh.gov](mailto:dwoods@osd.oh.gov).



Like OSD PSA on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/OSDPSA>

# PTA Carnival Sunday, May 3rd!

The PTA Spring carnival is coming up **Sunday, May 3rd**. We hope you and your family will save the date on your calendar!

This year's Carnival will feature bounce games and entertainment, live art, the OSSB marching band, fresh food, a Silent Auction, and much more!

This is a whole community event. Feel free to invite friends and neighbors.

**The Carnival is part of the PTA mission "to bring into closer relation the home and the school".** The money raised by our Carnival is used to directly support the students at the Ohio School for the Deaf.

We're still scheduling volunteers for shifts to help out in a variety of ways at the carnival. We're also taking donations for the silent auction, including in-hand items (t-shirts, hats, toys, etc), services, financial donations, gift certificates or gift baskets.

If you'd like to volunteer, contact Amanda at [osdsoccerblondie@yahoo.com](mailto:osdsoccerblondie@yahoo.com).

If you'd like to contribute to the Silent Auction, contact Denyse at [dwoods@osd.oh.gov](mailto:dwoods@osd.oh.gov).

See you there for the fun!



# PTA Carnival Silent Auction

This year Ohio School for the Deaf Spring Carnival and Auction will be held on Sunday, May 3rd 2015 from 12-4. Would you consider partnering with us by contributing a donation from your business? We are expecting 300 people to attend the carnival, so lots of donation variety is needed.

The carnival and auction are part of the OSD Spartan – PTA mission. Whether in-hand items (t-shirts, hats, toys, etc), services, financial donations, gift certificates or gift baskets; all donations help contribute to our goal as the OSD Spartan PTA to empower families and school staff to serve students in ways that will contribute to every child reaching their fullest potential.

Contact Lisa or Denyse if you are interested in donating or have questions about the auction.

Lisa Pritts (PTA Auction co-coordinator) at [lkcheeza@gmail.com](mailto:lkcheeza@gmail.com) or Denyse Woods (Elementary Principal) at [dwoods@osd.oh.gov](mailto:dwoods@osd.oh.gov)

We are still in need of items for the silent auction,  
but here is a sneak peek of some current items up for bid.  
More items will be available on May 3rd...



# Library

Nancy Boone, Donna Henderson

OSD celebrated Read Across America Day on March 2. We joined many other people nationwide honoring Dr. Seuss's birthday by reading, reading, reading! The library held a read-in where students came to enjoy books. Some read books to themselves; some older students or staff read to younger students. We even had a special guest, Mrs. Tess Elshoff, vice president of the State Board of Education! She brought her two youngest children, and OSD students read to them. We were thrilled to have so many participate in this celebration!



March 20-27, we had our spring Scholastic Buy One Get One Free sale. With the special sale, lots of students, families, and staff were able to stock up on books for spring break and summer vacation! ■



Save the Date:

April 22, 2015

Poetry Night, 6:30pm in the cafeteria.



[Transition continued from page 10]

## Announcement:



Dear Colleague:

Recently Social Security launched – iAppeals – an improved online appeals process. Driven by your feedback, the improvements provide a better user experience.

The enhancements include:

- The ability to provide documents electronically when you file your appeal;
- The ability to accept online appeals from people living outside the United States;
- Improved navigation and on-screen help; and,
- Clearer language and less jargon.

As a reminder, representatives who request, and are eligible for, direct fee payment **must** file disability appeals online, and now it is easier than ever to do so.

Attached is an overview of the enhancements to share with your members, colleagues, and other interested parties. Please help us promote these improvements on your blogs, Facebook, Google+, and Twitter using the following posts.

### Facebook & Google+

Filing an appeal of your Social Security disability decision is easier and faster than ever. You can now upload documents online to support your appeal. This will help speed up the time it takes to receive a decision from Social Security. [www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityssi/appeal.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityssi/appeal.html)

### Twitter

Appealing a disability decision online is now faster. You can now upload documents to support your appeal <http://www.ssa.gov/disabilityssi/appeal.html>

Thanks so much for your support.

Sincerely,

Darren Lutz

Public Affairs Specialist- Central Ohio ■

# Ohio School for the Deaf Programs and Services

The **Ohio School for the Deaf (OSD)** offers a PreK-12 education program and other services for Ohio students who are deaf or hard of hearing. It is OSD's mission to ensure that all of Ohio's deaf and hard of hearing students achieve their maximum potential and become successful citizens.

The **Alice Cogswell Center (ACC)** is part of the comprehensive educational program at OSD. ACC's curriculum, immersion in American Sign Language and exposure to English auditorially and in print, allow deaf and hard of hearing youngsters to have maximum opportunities to ensure readiness for kindergarten. OSD operates under the supervision of the Ohio Department of Education.

The **4PLUS program**, housed at OSD, is a transition program designed for young adults who are deaf and hard of hearing who desire extra support or need extra time to transition to the world of work, internships, vocational training and/or postsecondary education. The 4Plus program also focuses on independent living skills, self-determination and community awareness.

The **Center for Outreach Services**, also housed at OSD, provides resources and support for families and professionals providing services to students who are deaf or hard of hearing throughout Ohio. Outreach services are free or low cost and include consultation, professional development, and support to educational agencies and professionals to assist them in offering services to students who are deaf or hard of hearing, families, and schools using various communication modes, including both visual and auditory methods.

## OSD Principals

*Denyse Woods*, PreK - Middle School Principal  
[dwoods@osd.oh.gov](mailto:dwoods@osd.oh.gov)

*Greg Mendenhall*, High School - 4Plus Principal  
[mendenhall@osd.oh.gov](mailto:mendenhall@osd.oh.gov)



OHIO SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF  
500 MORSE ROAD  
COLUMBUS, OH 43214  
(614) 728-1424 voice / (614) 678-5407 VP  
[www.osd.oh.gov](http://www.osd.oh.gov)



Like us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/ohioschoolforthe deaf](https://www.facebook.com/ohioschoolforthe deaf)



## Summer Camp Fun for 2015

Take a look at our list of summer camps available to Deaf and Hard of Hearing students that live in Ohio. More information will be posted on our website in the coming month. [www.osd.oh.gov](http://www.osd.oh.gov)

### Day Camps

**Driver's Education Camp\*** **June 1-June 12**  
*For Ohio high school students 15 ½ to 22 years of age who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.*

**ACC Summer Sign Camp\*** **June 8-August 7**  
*Open to Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Hearing children ages 6 weeks to 10 years old.*

**STEAM Camp** **June 8-June 12**  
*STEAM stands for Science Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. For grades K-3*

### Residential Camps

**Lego Robotics Camp** **June 8-June 12**  
*For grades 4-8*

**STEM Camp** **June 8-June 12**  
*STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. For grades 9-12*

**Leadership Camp** **June 29-July 3**  
*For grades 9-12*

**Junior Work Camp** **July 13-July 17**  
*This is designed to start working on career exploration for some of our very young kids. For grades 3-6*

**Summer Work Academy** **July 6-July 24**  
*For grades 9-12*

**Career Connections** **July 6-July 24**  
*For grades 9-12*

**R.I.T TechGirlz/TechBoyz Camp \*** **July 25-July 30**  
*[Out-of-State camp in Rochester NY] For grades 7-9*

\* Informational flyer included at the end of this newsletter

ACC 2015

# *SUMMER SIGN CAMP*

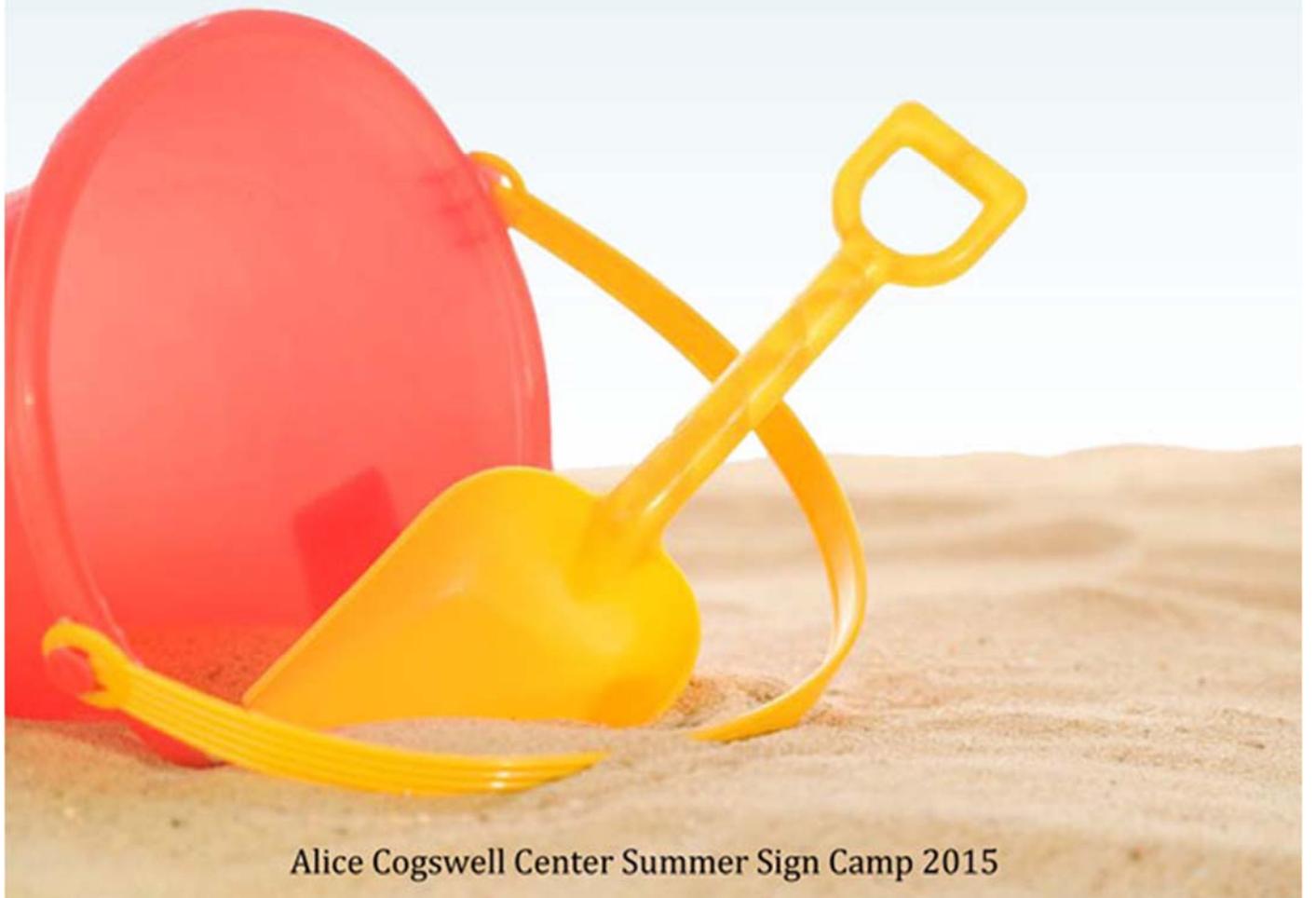
June 8 – August 7, 2015

**8:00 – 4:00 daily**

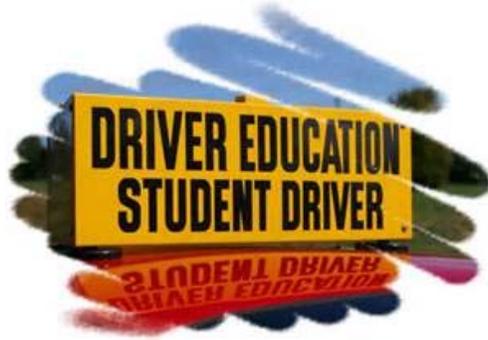
Alice Cogswell Center at OSD

Start planning now for a summer of fun at the ACC Summer Sign Camp. Open to Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Hearing children, ages 6 weeks to 10 years. All activities are presented using American Sign Language (ASL) and spoken English as needed. Join us for swimming, games, art, crafts and plenty of outside play.

Watch for Registration Packets and tuition rates soon!  
For more information: 614-728-6900



Alice Cogswell Center Summer Sign Camp 2015



**Driver Education for Students Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**  
**Two-week Long Summer School for Eligible Ohio Teens**  
Columbus, OH- 3/31/2015

The Ohio School for the Deaf in partnership with Advantage Driver Training of Columbus, will offer two weeks of driver education including classroom and behind the wheel instruction, for Ohio high school students 15 ½ to 22 years of age who are deaf or hard of hearing.

The driver education summer school runs June 1 - June 12, 2015 from 8am – 4pm Monday through Friday. Students attend driver education at Advantage Driver Training and are provided with tutoring and additional information on OSD campus. OSD provides interpreters and other accommodations as requested, during classroom instruction. Additional small group tutoring is provided in the afternoon at OSD. This is a day program.

*Registration Forms available on the Ohio School for the Deaf website by April 6, 2015.*  
[www.osd.oh.gov](http://www.osd.oh.gov)

**Space is limited to 15 students.**

Registration deadline is **May 15, 2015**.

For questions, contact us by email [Gundrum@osd.oh.gov](mailto:Gundrum@osd.oh.gov) or phone (614)995-1563 v.

This program is being made possible through the generous support of the Dorothy E. Ann Fund.



# RIT TechBoyz Camp

TechBoyz is a week-long summer camp for deaf and hard-of-hearing boys entering 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade who are interested in science, technology, engineering and math.

July 25–30, 2015 • Rochester Institute of Technology • Rochester, New York

## About the Camp

- Cost is \$700 and includes housing in a residence hall and food for the week.
- Limited scholarships are available based on financial need. To apply for a scholarship, have your parent or guardian complete the scholarship information on the registration form.
- Camp classes are taught in English and in sign language.
- Parents are invited to closing activities.
- The program is certified by the New York State Department of Health.
- The program incorporates National Science Education Standards.

## How to register:

Register online at [www.rit.edu/NTID/TechBoyz](http://www.rit.edu/NTID/TechBoyz), then download and complete the required camp forms and mail to:

**Rochester Institute of Technology**  
NTID TechBoyz Summer Camp  
52 Lomb Memorial Drive  
Rochester, New York 14623

or

Request a registration form by emailing [TechBoyz@ntid.rit.edu](mailto:TechBoyz@ntid.rit.edu).

**Register Today!**

Registration Deadline  
is May 31



**MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS  
FOUNDATION**



# RIT TechGirly Camp

TechGirly is a week-long summer camp for deaf and hard-of-hearing girls entering 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade who are interested in science, technology, engineering and math.

July 25–30, 2015 • Rochester Institute of Technology • Rochester, New York

## About the Camp

- Cost is \$700 and includes housing in a residence hall and food for the week.
- Limited scholarships are available based on financial need. To apply for a scholarship, have your parent or guardian complete the scholarship information on the registration form.
- Camp classes are taught in English and in sign language.
- Parents are invited to closing activities.
- The program is certified by the New York State Department of Health.
- The program incorporates National Science Education Standards.

## How to register:

Register online at [www.rit.edu/NTID/TechGirly](http://www.rit.edu/NTID/TechGirly), then download and complete the required camp forms and mail to:

**Rochester Institute of Technology**  
NTID TechGirly Summer Camp  
52 Lomb Memorial Drive  
Rochester, New York 14623

or

Request a registration form by emailing [TechGirly@ntid.rit.edu](mailto:TechGirly@ntid.rit.edu).

**Register Today!**

Registration Deadline  
is May 31



**MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS  
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# Filing Disability Appeals

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# WE HEARD YOU



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[www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/appeal](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/appeal)

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