

We live in one of the most exciting periods in history. The changing technological and world economy has brought education to the crossroads and has spiraled it into many unique challenges and changes.

The "way we did school" 20 years ago has drastically changed. With the advancing technology, problem solving skills and team-oriented creativity needed in the work place today, education has definitely changed and expanded. The knowledge base of our students is greater today than at any point in history.

With high stake testing and assessment initiated by the

federal and state governments, all schools must continue to expand and explore new educational programs.

USD 420 continues to move ahead into the 21st century as we continue to teach and develop new learning strategies. A highly dedicated and qualified staff of professionals, many with advanced degrees in education, reading and math, work with 700 students on a daily basis in Osage City. These teachers continue to be trained on the latest educational issues and strategies throughout the year as they teach

our students the necessities to become productive citizens of our society.

USD 420 continues to upgrade facilities and implement many new pieces of technology to keep up with the ever-changing demands of our society.

USD 420 continues to believe that All Students Can Achieve and has implemented many new programs this year such as the Multi-Tier System of Support (Three Tier Reading Model) at the elementary and the Corrective Reading Program at the secondary level. Test scores continue to improve overall in the district in reading and math.

USD 420 continues to offer a variety of activities for the students of Osage City. Many Osage City High School and Osage

City Middle School programs continue to receive league, regional and state recognition.

We are very proud of our USD 420 graduates who have been very successful in a variety of occupations and university settings around the world.

USD 420 appreciates the continued support from the community. We pride ourselves on the very best education and a community that has supported this effort.



# Osage City USD 420

The journey down the road to success begins at Osage City Elementary each spring as our youngest students come to Kindergarten Round-up. Also in the spring, current students are placed in their next year's classrooms and teachers start planning summer staff development activities. Summer brings fun learning opportunities during July for first grade through fifth grade students at summer school. It's always an exiting time in August for students and their families at enrollment and again when the new school year begins at Back to School Night. Classes start and the next few weeks are spent settling into classroom routines and building schedules. The first assessments begin in September with MAP tests. By now teachers and students are well underway to progressing to the next level of their journey. For the next several months, lessons and assignments come by way of whole group, small group and individual instruction. Instruction is guided by frequent evaluation and collaboration between parents and teachers. Breaking up the daily lessons are activities and assemblies. Holidays and semester break quickly come and go leading into the next semester. Upon the return from semester break in January it takes a short time to tune those academic skills and get ready for another rigorous round of learning. The pace stays steady as students continue their journey to the end of another school year within a few short months. All the learning comes to light as State Assessments begin in March and MAP tests are given again to check progress in April. The blooming redbuds and daffodils indicate the final few weeks of the year. The month of May is in sight and the remaining time is spent following the curriculum. Educational field trips to surrounding cities and field day help cap the year. One year of the journey ends with the promotion of the Kindergarten round up students to first grade.



## Osage City High School

"I'm very proud of the school. I chose to come here seven years ago, I pursued getting a job here," Mr. Marple, a teacher and coach for OCHS says. "I like the community, the staff, and the quality. Of all the schools around, this is the one I chose."

Osage City High School is a school that is always looking for ways to excel. There are many opportunities awaiting anyone interested in OCHS

With many courses to choose from, students' schedules are designed to fit them individually and prepare them for life post high school. "Students have the opportunity to take a wide variety of courses," Mrs. Bean, Art, Computer Graphics teacher, and art club sponsor for the school, states. Teachers have their hands full most of the time, the majority teaching more than just one class, and for each subject multiple teachers are available.

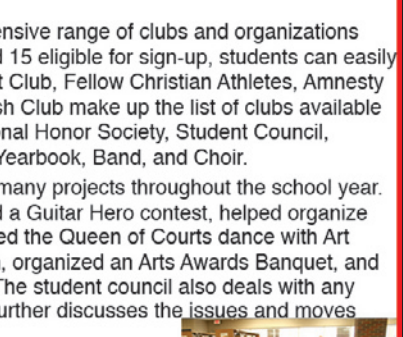
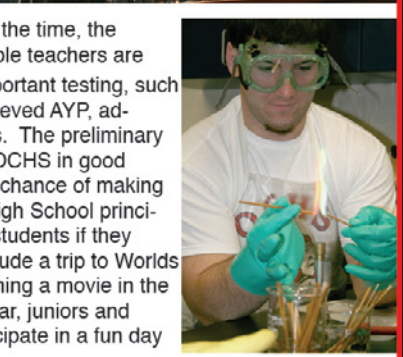
Teachers work hard to prepare pupils for important testing, such as the State Assessments. The school has achieved AYP, adequate yearly progress for the last several years. The preliminary results for this year's assessments already put OCHS in good standings. "I already think that we have a good chance of making Standard of Excellence this year," Mr. Hutton, High School principal, states. The school offers incentives to the students if they achieve particular scores. These incentives include a trip to Worlds Of Fun, a trip to see a movie in Topeka, or watching a movie in the school's auditorium. At the end of the school year, juniors and sophomores that took part in testing get to participate in a fun day of playing softball, including a cookout.

Students at Osage City schools have an extensive range of clubs and organizations available to join and partake in. With just around 15 eligible for sign-up, students can easily find a club or organization to fit in to. O-Club, Art Club, Fellow Christian Athletes, Amnesty International, Key Club, Drama Club, and Spanish Club make up the list of clubs available for OCHS students. Organizations include National Honor Society, Student Council, Debate, Forensics, Scholars Bowl, Newspaper, Yearbook, Band, and Choir.

The Student Council at OCHS is involved in many projects throughout the school year. Just this year, the student council has sponsored a Guitar Hero contest, helped organize and make Homecoming successful, co-sponsored the Queen of Courts dance with Art Club, started the Freshmen Orientation program, organized an Arts Awards Banquet, and in the fall will be having Options and Answers. The student council also deals with any other issues brought to their attention and then further discusses the issues and moves appropriately.

Athletics here are also of large variety. With sports for every season, students have many to participate in throughout the school year. "I feel like in the high school program we've improved every year," Mrs. Durkin, head volleyball coach, says. "We went to state in 2006, and I continue to see girls become interested in volleyball outside of school, which pleases me very much. Having them take this interest betters the team."

Osage City High School is a school that offers more to students and the possibility of succeeding is increased in any student who remains within the walls of OCHS.



**The Path to Success at ocms**

Osage City students enjoy playing a variety of sports including a friendly game of hockey against the teachers.

Technology at OCMS is top-notch. Students experience the benefits of computer labs, mobile labs, Smart Boards, projectors, and educational software.

School spirit is very much a part of Osage City Middle School. It's great to be an OCMS Indian.

OCMS teachers and staff are among the best anywhere. They continually go above and beyond expectations to ensure all students are provided an outstanding education.

**Osage City Middle School Indians**

Kelly Huria