

Spring 2026



# THE COMET CHRONICLE



- THE NEWTOWN BUILDING SALE!
- OGS FINE ARTS FAIR
- OGS VOLLEYBALL
- IHSA CHEER RECAP
- SENIOR/STAFF GAME
- OHS BOYS BASKETBALL RECAP
- OHS WRESTLING HIGHLIGHTS
- OHS SCHOLASTIC BOWL
- NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY BANQUET
- OHS CAREER FAIR
- OHS BASEBALL & SOFTBALL
- TRACK AND FIELD
- FFA WEEK
- DRAMA CLUB
- NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY EASTER 5K COLOR RUN
- OGS RUNNING CLUB
- GRADUATION
- DATES TO REMEMBER
- PROM



# Selling of the Newtown Building

In recent news, the Newtown middle school building sold. The building, which had been used for baseball practice and some cheer practices, was recently sold for 25,000 dollars and is now to be turned into a learning center. The local news has called this a win win for both Oakwood and the buyer. The building was bought by an organization called Cunningham Children's Home and is going to be used to hopefully welcome our student to safe learning environments



# Fine Arts Fair 2026

is in the books!



**Special thanks to our volunteers** ❤️

**Almost 1,100 pieces of art were displayed!**

Our Hawaiian Art Islands were:

- Aloha Island
- Surrealism Shoes
- Pop Art Paradise
- Hula Haring Island
- Rhythm Reef
- Sunset Beach
- Picasso Palm Cove
- Ohana Island

Luau Lab (Art station area)

Art stations were:

- Musical Pop it! Encore edition
- Scratch Art Surfboards
- Make your own lei necklace
- Create your own sand art shell necklace
- Make a keepsake Ohana ornament
- Artist Trading cards (Roll it)
- Artist Fan Letters (will be delivered asap!)

***Great job, JH band and choir! Thanks, Miss McQueen for being a part!***

***The Hawaiian Beach Party musical was so fun! We are so proud of these students for taking a chance and signing up. They were great!***

***We had a fantastic turnout! We hope everyone enjoyed seeing all the art and hearing all the talent***



***Congratulations to the 8th grade volleyball team on winning the IESA Regional Championship on March 11th and moving on to sectionals.***

# IHSA State!

# Recap



## FEBRUARY 6TH

Was the first day of state for Illinois cheer teams. Over 75 teams headed to state fighting for top 10 and a chance at reaching podium. OCC was a part of the 75 teams able to go and strive for a first place finish. The girls and boy put out an amazing routine with only one deduction. Unfortunately not making it to day 2, they got 17<sup>th</sup> place out of 25 small varsity cheer teams.. Overall their hard work and dedication was left on the mat that night! If you would like to see the 2026 IHSA State routine you can find a video on YouTube by searching "Oakwood High School IHSA State 2026 cheerleading".



## OUR SENIORS

February 6<sup>th</sup> was the last, ever competition for our 6 seniors. (Karleigh N, Arianna F, Brynlie W, Leanne S, Jaelyn E, and Sophia A.) Although they did not get to show up for the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of state they were still honored and appreciated that following Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. 4 of the 6 seniors have dedicated every year to this cheer team and 2 of them have dedicated 3 of their years. Working hard to become who they are now and give a name to OCC. This group of seniors was proudly recognized by Rebel (a brand they wear with these cheer uniforms seen around the world) for their leadership, hard work, commitment, and personality! We will miss these seniors as the years go on! May we never forget how it all began and the legacy they leave behind for future OCC years.

# Senior/staff game

The seniors beat the staff 56 to 47. The seniors started off the game hot and got out to an early lead. After talking with the coaches of the senior team they said the MVP of their team would be Caydence. The leading scorer of the game was Coach Marsh with 22 points.



## Boys Basketball Recap

The boys basketball team had a good year. There were many notable accomplishments. Coach Jeff Mandrell earned his

600<sup>th</sup> victory vs Chrisman, Carsen Dudley scored his 1000<sup>th</sup> point, and Juniors Alex Wallace (27) and Carsen Dudley (22) led the team to a home regional victory against St. Teresa



# Wrestling State Qualifiers

Senior Tyler Huchel and Sophomore Weston Frazier made it to the IHSA State Finals at the State Fram Center. Tyler Huchel fell short and lost his match in the bloodrounds. Tyler had a great career. Weston Frazier made it to the finals but lost the match placing 2nd. Weston Frazier has two more years to win the state finals.



---

## SCHOLASTIC BOWL

---



Scholastic Bowl is a fast-paced, academic trivia competition for 4-5 person teams, frequently described as "team Jeopardy!".

### OAKWOODS SCHOLASTIC TEAM

Oakwood Scholastic Bowl team has been widely successful the past few years led by History Teacher, Tyler Petersen. Mr. Petersen has led his team to many tournament and match wins, even including championships. This years squad was (senior) Alex Wells, (senior) Will Irick, (senior) Riley Block, (senior) Dylan Stubblefield, (sophomore) Arabella Wiley, and (sophomore) Jason Moser. Senior Alex Wells was recognized with All-Conference, All County, and Top Toss-Ups for All-Conference and All County honors.



Using buzzer systems, students from high schools or middle schools answer questions on subjects like history, literature, science, math, and pop culture to score points.

# National Honor Society Banquet



NHS hosted its annual banquet for its new members of this prestigious group. Seven previous members welcomed six new members on **Wednesday March 4<sup>th</sup>**. This also included announcing the new class officers for the incoming class.

They are as followed:

**President:** Walker Enos

**Vice-President:** Sidney Dunavan

**Secretary:** Kenzie Carpenter

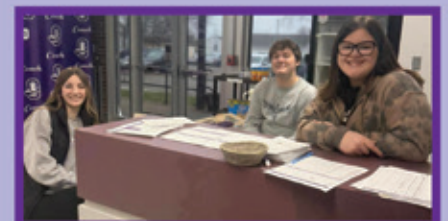
**Treasurer:** Grady Johnson



## OHS CAREER FAIR

On March 11th, OHS held our 4th annual career fair since COVID. We are so proud of our Business Management students and Entrepreneurship students for working so hard to put this on. They send out the invites, get ready for the day, and run the event.

This year we had 31 organizations signed up and 27 attend. We had a few who were not able to attend due to last minute things coming up. We appreciate each and every one of the organizations who take time out of their day to attend and engage with our students. It's so fun to see what ideas the organizations come up with to grab the students attention and teach them about different professions. Two of our sophomore boys, Weston Frazier and Layne Blundy, were over the event and they did a great job along with all their classmates. Each student in these classes oversees one of our many projects we complete throughout the school year. This year, we had several alumni in attendance as part of the different organizations including Danville Police Department, SIU School of Medicine, Village of Oakwood, State Farm, Lakeview College of Nursing, and DACC Foundation. All of our OHS students attended the event along with a group of Salt Fork students. It was a fun day!! Thank you to all the staff and the admin for helping with the day!



# Oakwood High School Baseball

Oakwood Baseball started their season with their first game Thursday, March 19th at Fletcher Field against Casey-Westfield.



## Softball

These girls won their first game of the season against Villa Grove 7-3



## OHS Track and Field

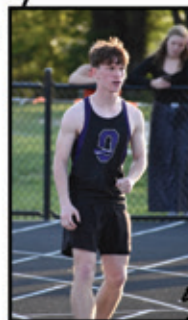


Pictured to the left, senior distance runner Alex Wells

With track starting up, both boys and girls traveled to EIU for their opening indoor meet.

Top Athletes will attend the Illinois Top Times meet March 27-28 concluding the Indoor Season. Outdoor season goes through May.

Pictured to the right, senior sprinter Connor Taflinger



This years track team has many notable athletes including returning state qualifiers Kyler Johnson, Nathan Young, Jaethan Perez, Trevor Mccall, Sailer Harrison, and Lucas Tyas

# FFA WEEK

For National FFA week this year your OHS FFA chapter celebrated by having a dress up day for each day;

02/23 - Monday - Farmers day off

02/24 - Tuesday - USA day

02/25 - Wednesday - Wear your blue and gold

02/26 - Thursday - Dress like a farmer or animal

02/27 - Friday - gone hunting

During this week we also did a staff appreciation breakfast, hid tiny Cows and Pigs in the high school, put on a games day for the high school students, and did Ag in the Classroom with the 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Ag in the classroom was a really big hit as we brought the idea of Ag and FFA to future underclassmen who could potentially be leading your Oakwood FFA in years to come. We also joined in on a game of floor hockey with the 8<sup>th</sup> graders.



## DRAMA CLUB

Come out and support your OHS Drama Club and watch us put on Our Town by Thornton Wilder. Our actors have been working really hard to make sure they can be ready and know their lines and create the perfect play for the Oakwood community to come and enjoy!

### Show dates

03/27 - 7 pm

03/28 - 7 pm

03/29 - 1:30 pm

### Ticket price

Students - \$5

Regular - \$10

5 and under - Free

Come support the OHS Drama Club seniors as well on 03/28!! Many of the seniors have been doing Drama for all 4 years so make sure you come and give them the appreciation they deserve and give them a round of applause for the excellent plays they have helped put on.



Friday, March 27 - 7:00 PM

Saturday, March 28 - 7:00 PM

Sunday, March 29 - 1:30 PM

Lucy Loewy

\*AWARDS FOR TOP 3 MALE AND FEMALE PARTICIPANTS

# EASTER COLOR RUN 5K

RACE BEGINS AND ENDS AT OAKWOOD GRADE SCHOOL

REGISTER BY APRIL 2ND for a T Shirt!  
REGISTRATION AVAILABLE DAY OF RACE BEGINNING AT 8 AM

**SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH 10 AM**

Cost:  
\$20 for Adults  
\$15 for 12 and under



You may register by completing an entry form and getting it back to the school along with a check made payable to Oakwood High School National Honor Society.

## 2026 OHS EASTER COLOR RUN

ONE ENTRY FORM PER PERSON.  
COST IS \$20 PER ADULT AND \$15 FOR 12 AND UNDER

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

T- SHIRT SIZE (GUARANTEED IF REGISTERED BY 4/2) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

I CERTIFY THAT I SUFFER NO CONDITIONS LIKELY TO CAUSE INJURY OR ILLNESS TO MYSELF FROM PARTICIPATING IN THIS EVENT. I WAIVE AND RELEASE ALL RIGHTS I MAY HAVE AGAINST THE OAKWOOD COMMUNITY UNIT #76 SCHOOL DISTRICT, OHS NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY, AND OAKWOOD TOWNSHIP FOR DAMAGE, INJURIES, OR LOSSES I MAY SUFFER AS A RESULT OF THIS EVENT. I GRANT PERMISSION TO THE AFOREMENTIONED TO USE MY NAME AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHY OR VIDEOTAPE OF THIS EVENT WITHOUT LIMITATION OR OBLIGATION.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (IF UNDER 18)



The 13th *All-Star 5K Run and Walk*, organized by the staff at Oakwood Grade School, was developed to support the Health and Fitness Initiative. Our goal is to continue to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle for all students and adults. *The All-Star 5K Run and Walk* will be the culminating event to our 7 week Running Club for 100 grade school students.

We are also inviting members of the community to participate and show their support. The race will take place on Saturday, May 9, 2026 at 8 am, beginning and ending at Oakwood Grade School. All proceeds will go towards continuing the Health and Fitness Initiative at Oakwood Grade School.

Reach out to Meagan Zindars if you have any questions.

MEAGAN ZINDARS BSN, RN CSN-PEL  
OAKWOOD CUSD #76 SCHOOL NURSE

📞 217-354-4221 EXT. 2108  
✉ ZINDARSM@OAKWOOD76.ORG  
🌐 ALSO ON DOJO!  
📍 408 S. SCOTT ST. (PO BOX 219) OAKWOOD, IL 61858



# Graduation Ceremony



OAKWOOD- The oakwood school district will celebrate its graduating students during commencement ceremonies scheduled for Sunday, May 17, 2026 at the Oakwood Grade School Gymnasium

The ceremonies will take place at the school, located at 408 S. Scott Street in Oakwood, and will be recognizing both high school senior class and the district's eighth grade graduates.

Oakwood High School seniors will be honored during the first ceremony, which will begin at 1:00 p.m. Following that the district will recognize the Oakwood Grade School eighth grade class during a second ceremony beginning at 3:30 p.m. The event will celebrate the students' completion of middle school and their transition into high school.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**ACT testing day- April 15  
(graduation requirement)**

**Make-up ACT testing day  
will be April 29th @ 8:00am  
at the District Office.**

**DACC Registration Day  
(TBA) -I will take any  
seniors who plan to attend  
DACC next year to register  
for their classes, tour the  
campus, and get the  
DACC ID.**



TUESDAY MAY 12<sup>TH</sup>

## Decision Day

You are invited to wear a T-shirt that represents your plans after graduation for Decision Day! This could be a college or trade school shirt, a military shirt, or a shirt representing the career field or workplace you plan to enter. We look forward to celebrating you and your future!

CLASS OF 2026

**Senior Info Needed (Google Form) Due May 6th. If your student wants academic scholarship information included at Senior Honors Night this form is due NO LATER THAN 12:00pm Friday May, 1.**

**Decision Day-May 12 (Flyer above)**

**Senior Honors Night- May 6 @ 6pm**

# Prom 2026

Oakwood High School's 2026 Prom will take place on May 2nd and will feature a Golden Gala theme with elegant light blue accents. The evening will bring juniors and seniors together for a memorable celebration filled with music, dancing, photos, and time spent with friends. Decorated with gold details and soft blue touches, the event will create a classy and exciting atmosphere as students celebrate the school year and make lasting memories at one of Oakwood's most special traditions. ✨💙



**SPOTLIGHT**

The superintendent's newsletter,  
The Comet Chronicle,  
is inspired by  
Superintendent Andrew Jordan  
and designed by the  
Oakwood High School  
Business Management  
& Entrepreneurship classes.

The district newsletter is sent out to the community  
twice a year in the fall and the spring.



**Oakwood High School**  
**5870 US Route 150**  
**Fithian, IL 61844**

NON-PROFIT  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
DANVILLE, IL  
PERMIT #234

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*

Local  
Postal Customer