



Dear OSA Students and Families,

First of all, we want to thank you for your support and input on the plans for the '19-'20 school year! With your support this year, here is a snapshot of some of the amazing experiences for students that we have been able to accomplish:

- "Pop Lab" - overview of the music industry and how to manage as an up and coming artist, (contracts, marketing, communication and types of careers in music)
- "Off the Table" - a multidisciplinary class modeled after NPR Tiny Desk – student-run project; online platform and marketing and audio recording & editing;
  - Industry Relationships with Bandcamp and Facebook
- KOSA Radio - designed to give students a voice & talk about things important to them and to work on presentation skills as a collaboration of students from Literary Arts, Vocal Music, IM/Audio Production
- Visual Arts/Digital Media cross-curricular lessons giving students experience from the 2-D world to the 3-D world
- Visual Arts Mural work in San Francisco, which lead to student internships
- Production Design - Tiny House installation and IASTE Union apprenticeship pathway development
- Berkeley City College Statistics taught on OSA's campus
- OSA High School Big Band won 1st Place, C Division at the Folsom Jazz Festival and were one of the 5 bands out of 50 that made the finals
- Encore Choir semifinalists in International Championship of High School A Capella. They sang great and came in as 2nd place against the top high school groups from the western region
- Vocal Rush participation in A Cappella Festival in London, England

As we prepare for the next year, we are excited to incorporate the feedback we have received from students, teachers, and families toward the transition to fully launching OSA 2020.

This email is intended to highlight the following elements for the '19-'20 school year:

- School Calendar - the first of school is August 19, 2019
- Bell Schedule we are implementing a 2-Day Block schedule
  - The school day will begin at 8:15 am for all students. Middle school will be released at 3:20 pm. High School will be released at 4:15 pm.
  - With the Early Release day changing to Wednesday, we will ensure that all students go to all classes on Mondays. We realize some students have standing appointments are scheduled on Mondays. Our hope is this early notice will give ample opportunity to reschedule.
  - Block schedule days will be Wednesday and Thursday.
- Dual Enrollment for high school students in community college classes. Statistics will be taught on campus by a professor from Berkeley City College(BCC).
- Additional Early College Credit (ECC) courses will be available to students on-site online. One of our partners, Westhills City College offers Certification in classes such as Photoshop, Illustrator, and Premier. These are in response to feedback from our Industry Partners.
- Advisory will be implemented one day per week. As part of actions to create an inclusive and supportive school culture, OSA is returning to a model that is supported by research around the benefits of having an advisory for students. The Faculty Advisor acts as an advocate and initial point of contact for a small groups of ALL students. There will be middle school and high school advisories.
- New course electives are being developed that allow students to begin to take courses outside of their art area. Our goal is to grow this offering for all students.

Students will begin online registration next week, starting with high school. On May 7, Ms. Schultz sent out a full course catalog, to high school and middle school to review with your students prior to their scheduled grade-level online registration date. Thanks to Mr. Oz and Ms. Schultz for their dedication and attention to detail on providing this information for students and families.

Thank you all so much for being a part of the OSA family. We wouldn't be where we are today without you and your continued support!

With gratitude,

Staci A. Smith  
Principal

Oakland School for the Arts