



A Quick Opening

On behalf of the entire district staff, I would like to extend a warm and exciting welcome back to all our returning students and, of course, to our new students, whether they are just starting their school journey in kindergarten or are new to our district. Okanogan has a long tradition of excellence in academics, athletics, and activities, while being an amazing place to live with friendly people and a location that is second to none.

Being new to the district this year, allow me to introduce myself to you. Both my wife and I grew up in Spokane, but as soon as we graduated from college, we moved our small family of three children to Naselle, Washington where I taught Spanish and Mathematics while also coaching several sports and getting involved in the community. After five years of teaching, I acquired my master's degree in school administration and moved into various principal and superintendent roles for the next 22 years, which seems hard to believe as I do not feel that old! Most recently, we spent the last six years down in Burns, Oregon as the superintendent. Prior to moving to Oregon, we lived in Oroville for 11 years where I was initially the principal and eventually became the superintendent. Hav-

ing already lived in Okanogan County, when the opportunity arose to return this summer, we jumped at it. My wife and I are super excited to be here again and look forward to meeting new people and getting reacquainted with old friends and acquaintances.

While I have only been here for a few weeks, I have been extremely impressed with the many employees in the district who have been working all summer to prepare for this school year. There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes during the summer like hiring new staff, cleaning and repairing buildings, planning menus, preparing transportation routes and vehicles, taking classes over the summer, updating technology, preparing classrooms, attending camps with athletes, teaching summer school, and, of course, finding ways of recharging our personal batteries so everyone has the energy to start a new school year.

I am looking forward to a fun-filled year where we are focused on high standards, both in and out of the classroom. I've always believed learning should be fun and exciting. Luckily, we have an amazing staff who have high expectations for themselves and those around them while also making sure



School District Superintendent,
Steve Quick

we have the supports in place to ensure success. My hope is that our parents and community can continue to get involved in our schools as volunteers and in attending the various events held this year to help our students be the best they can be.

I am both humbled and honored to be your new superintendent and look forward to a fabulous new school year!

Go Dawgs!

State Requires "Homebased Students" File

Parents providing homebased instruction to their children must, according to Washington State laws, file the following information via their local school district: child's name, grade, birth date,

and credentials if any, of home instructor. Parents may pick up forms and file this information at the Okanogan School District office located at 115 Rose Street.

The due date for filing is September 15, or within two weeks of the beginning of the school quarter. Any questions, please contact: Brandy Wilson, District Secretary at 422-3629.

Okanogan School District

An Elementary Welcome

Dear families,

It is my pleasure to welcome everyone back to the 2022-2023 school year. I hope everyone has had a fantastic and relaxing summer. I am happy to be back at school and I have to say that I am very excited by the amazing possibilities of the coming school year! As we quickly approach the new school year, I look forward to meeting our new families and personally welcome each and every one to Virginia Grainger and the Okanogan School District.

At Virginia Grainger, we are proud of our school, our students, our staff and the outstanding community of parents and patrons. Thank you for the wonderful support to our school and helping make it the great place it is. On behalf of Virginia Grainger, it is truly my pleasure to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to you as you begin the school year with us.

It is my hope that everyone will quickly feel at home and become involved in

the activities of our school. Opportunities are available through your child's classroom, Family Fun Nights and First Friday Coffee sessions with Mr. Clark just to name a few. More information about Virginia Grainger is contained on the website including a calendar of events for the month. Please contact us if you have questions or need more information. Welcome to our family!

As you get into the routine of coming back to school, please help your child be ready for success. I know for my own family that means re-adjusting our sleeping schedules and building my children's own excitement to get back into school. Please take the time to establish daily reading time and math fact practice! As little as 15 minutes a day will make a huge difference for your student's success.

I look forward to building new partnerships with each of you and your families. As we welcome each of you back, please remember that we believe



Elementary Principal,
Jeremy Clark

in communication and that your students safety, education and well-being are our highest priorities. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have questions about supporting your child's learning at home. My door is always open to you as well. I am looking forward to meeting our students, families, and supporting the learning needs of all.

Working together,
Jeremy Clark



Middle School Principal,
Dorinda Belcher

Together with our teachers and staff, I would like to welcome you to the 2022-2023 school year. It remains a privilege and an honor to serve as your prin-

Welcome Back!

incipal. We hope you were able to relax and had an opportunity to make special memories with friends and family. We are eager to welcome back our students! Additionally, we are excited to welcome new staff. Nick and Amanda Fletcher are joining us. Nick is our 7/8 science and STEM teacher, and Amanda is our Inclusionary Practices teacher. Valerie Rice will be teaching 8th grade English Language Arts and Social Studies. Maia Gurol will be our Intervention teacher. Heather Downey is moving from Virginia Grainger to our Life Skills classroom.

The incredible staff of educators at Okanogan Middle School have been

in school throughout the summer to prepare classrooms for the new school year. This year, we will continue to build classroom community and strive to make connections with students so they feel valued, accepted and safe while providing a rigorous and inclusive school environment where learning is required.

Our school will be stronger with the support from our community. Partnering with families is crucial and we encourage you to stay connected and informed by checking our district's and school's websites as well as following us on social media.

Dear Bulldogs,

Wow, where did summer go? Hopefully, everyone had an excellent break and is ready for the 2022-23 school year. It is a thrilling time to be a bulldog as we are eager to welcome our students and staff back into the building! Speaking of, the first day of school will be Wednesday, August 31.

There are a couple of exciting additions this year for our students. First off, many of our teachers will be using the Canvas Learning Management System. This will improve access by providing a one-stop portal for course materials, communication, and academic feedback. Additionally, the ASB Leadership Team will be hosting an open forum orientation on August 30 from 5-7 p.m. for all of our incoming freshmen. Though optional, we highly encourage our freshmen and their guardians to stop by sometime during that time block. Next, laptops and associated insurance forms will be distributed to students no later than September 2. Fi-

nally, we ask that guardians please access their Skyward accounts in order to complete their student's annual registration.

In other news, we are thankful to be adding new staff members to our team. Ms. Lesamiz comes to us from the middle school and will be teaching social studies. Ms. Wiesner, also joining our team from the middle school, will be instructing many of our science courses. Last but not least, Brendan Colbert will provide additional supports to many of our students. We are truly blessed to be adding the above to our already excellent team of educators.

At the end of the day, we are excited to re-engage and connect—unifying as Okanogan Bulldogs through courtesy, pride, and respect. Although we are all unique, Okanogan High School has something to offer everyone. My best advice to our students is be courageous in seeking those opportunities—as well as maintain focus on at-



High School Principal,
Zach Spaet

tendance, working to ability-level, and never giving up. Please remember you are always welcome to reach out to the high school office at 509.422.3770. We are here to serve you and want what is best for our bulldogs!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Zach Spaet".

Zach Spaet

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S WELCOME BACK



Athletic Director,
Kevin Daling

OKHS has signed a 3-year agreement with Athlete Intelligence, selecting the wearable technology company as their head impact monitoring and performance tracking partner. Each OKHS team member will have an Athlete Intelligence CUE Sport Sensor inside their helmet, allowing Athletic Training staff to track the impact workload and head impact location patterns from each session. Following the session, impact data is downloaded wirelessly through a mobile phone. Concussion pre-screening will continue at the HS and MS level.

To help secure funding, Okanogan High School qualified for the Athlete Intelligence Insurance Subsidy program which

offers instant discounts paid for by their insurance provider. Okanogan High School secured the remaining balance through a generous donation from the Colville Confederated Tribe.

When asked about the details behind the decision to add helmet sensors, Head Athletic Trainer Whitney Cowan said, "I really like the idea that there is real-time data that I can easily access and read for each player. It is like another set of eyes for me and will assist me in seeing which players need more help with their form, technique, and education," Cowan adds. "The fact that it aids in performance is an excellent bonus."

Okanogan School District

Welcome Back

I hope this note finds you enjoying the final days of summer, and that you are looking forward to beginning a wonderful school year. It is an honor to introduce myself as the new special education director for Okanogan School District. My family and I are excited to join the school community here in Okanogan. We have lived in Ephrata for 20 years, so this is an exciting change for us. We are looking forward to exploring the area together!

While this is my first year here in Okanogan, I previously served as special education director, principal, inclusion specialist, and special education teacher for Soap Lake School District over a period of seven years. My focus has always been on providing the highest quality education in the manner in which my students needed it provided to them. My goal for Okanogan is to provide an environment rich with success for all students, and my vision is to see that each student is given the tools and skills they need to be successful. I can't wait to meet all of you and to work together to create this success for our children.



Special Education Director,
Angela Rolfe

Welcome back from the Maintenance, Grounds, Custodial department

Once again we are nearing the beginning of a new school year. Our maintenance, grounds and custodial staff have been extremely busy getting our facilities cleaned and shinning for the new school year. Okanogan School District is very fortunate to have an outstanding custodial staff.

Our grounds are in excellent condition, the football field looks better than it has for several years and is ready for the upcoming football season. The field was lined today in preparation for the first football practice tomorrow. Shawn Sullivan is doing an excellent job in his new position on grounds and we're getting compliments from the public.

Our three gyms had new finish applied the first week of August and are still curing. They will be ready for the first volleyball practice at the start of the new school year.

Summer break is a time when we can get in and make some repairs that are difficult to do when school is in session. We have time to get into areas without disturbing classes and activities.

We have a new addition going in across Dan Stout



Maintenance Supervisor,
Dan Stout

the street from Dawson gym, our Outreach program is getting a new facility. Unfortunately, the building won't be ready for the first day of school. Once the setup is complete, the lot paved, access ramps installed and all life safety components installed it will be ready for occupancy.

Welcome Back! If you see one of the maintenance, grounds, custodial staff member, please thank them for a job well done.

Bell Schedule (Regular time schedule)

	High School	Middle School	Elementary School
Day Begins	8:05 a.m.	8:05 a.m.	8:15 a.m.
Lunch Breaks ..	12:38-1:12.....	10:50-11:24 6th Grade 11:44-12:18 7th-8th Grade....	11:00-11:35 K-1st Grade 11:35-12:05 2-3rd Grade 12:10-12:40 4-5th Grade
Release	3:00 p.m.	3:00p.m.	2:55 p.m.
Buses Leave	3:07 p.m.	3:07 p.m.	3:00 p.m.

OKANOGAN SCHOOL DISTRICT 2022-23

AUG - SEPT 21*				
M	T	W	Th	F
29	30	31	1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER 21*				
M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

NOVEMBER 18*				
M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2	3	4/
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

DECEMBER 15*				
M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

JANUARY 19*				
M	T	W	Th	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27/
30	31			

Aug 29-30 Teacher Workdays
 Aug 31 First Day of School
 Sept 5 Labor Day
 Sept 9 Fair Day

Oct 19 PD Late Start-students start at 11:00 a.m.
 Nov 4 End of 1st Quarter, Report Card Prep
 Nov 11 Veteran's Day
 Nov 16 PD Late Start-students start at 11:00 a.m.

Nov 21-22 K-12 PTS Conferences
 Nov 23-25 Thanksgiving Break

Dec 21 Early Release-students only
 Dec 22-Jan 3 Winter Break
 Jan 11 PD Late Start-students start at 11:00 a.m.
 Jan 16 ML King Day
 Jan 27 End of 2nd Quarter, Report Card Prep

Feb 15 PD Late Start-students start at 11:00 a.m.
 Feb 20 President's Day
 March 16-17 K-12 PTS Conferences
 March 22 PD Late Start-students start at 11:00 a.m.
 March 31 End of 3rd Quarter, Report Card Prep

April 3-7 Spring Break
 May 3 PD Late Start-students start at 11:00 a.m.
 May 29 Memorial Day
 June 7 PD Late Start-students start at 11:00 a.m.
 June 1 Baccalaureate
 June 3 Graduation
 June 5 Outreach Graduation
 June 9 End of 4th Quarter/ Last Day of School

* = Number of School Days
 / = End of Quarter
 ○ = Early Release - Students only
 □ = No School

FEBRUARY 19*				
M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28			

MARCH 23*				
M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31/

APRIL 15*				
M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

MAY 22*				
M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

JUNE 7*				
M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9/
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

lement weather or other unforeseen circumstances will be made up.

Okanogan School District

WELCOME NEW STAFF



Jennifer Giles
Art/STEM Teacher



Kaitlan Klepec
Third Grade Teacher



Doug Leese
Elementary Music Teacher



Jancy Noble, Elementary Special
Education Para Educator



Trista Nelson, Elementary
Life Skills Para Educator



Nick Fletcher
Middle School Science Teacher



Amanda Fletcher
Middle School Inclusion Teacher



Valerie Rice
Middle School Social Studies & ELA



Maia Gurol, 7th & 8th Grade
Intervention Teacher



Angela Rolfe,
Special Education Director



Klancy Allen,
Business Manager



Steve Quick,
Superintendent



Danielle Murrah,
Food Service 2



Jennifer Marsden,
Food Service 2

New staff not pictured:

Jana Ewing,
Fourth Grade Teacher

Jamie Gregush,
Lead Preschool Teacher

Brittany Waters,
.5 Lead Preschool Teacher, .5 Special
Education Para Educator
(Long Term Sub)

Jay Nearents, Middle School
Special Education Para Educator

Michael Mitchell,
Food Service 2

STAFF CHANGES



Rachel Lesamiz,
High School Social Studies



Sarah Wiesner,
High School Science/Biology



Heather Downey,
Middle/High School
Life Skills Teacher



Dean Klepec,
Middle School Math



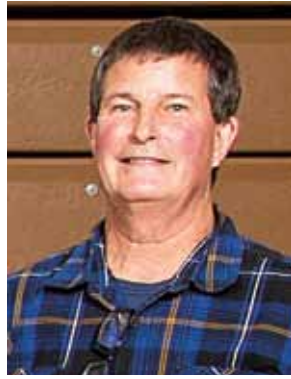
Brendan Colbert,
High School Para Educator



Brenda Davison,
Middle/High School Special
Education Para Educator



Jennifer Bedard,
Middle School Para Educator



Richard Caryl,
Elementary PE Teacher



Ericka Roberts,
Elementary Life Skills Teacher



Monica Way,
Second Grade Teacher



Kara Thornton,
Fourth Grade Teacher



Shirlee Ramos,
Elementary Resource Room Teacher



Shonta Wood,
Second Grade Teacher



Brittany Petersen
.5 Lead Preschool Teacher/.5
Special Education Para Educator



Elizabeth Vignale,
.5 Preschool Para Educator/.5
Special Education Para Educator

Staff change not pictured: Carrie Evans, Stat Federal Program Assessment Assistant

Are you struggling to find permanent housing due to financial difficulties?

Okanogan School District's McKinney Vento program can help your child maintain their school stability and can help connect your family to resources.

If any of the following circumstances are true, your children may qualify for McKinney-Vento supports through Okanogan School district's McKinney Vento program.

Are you currently:

- Couch surfing (moving from place to place to sleep),
- Doubled up with friends or relatives due to financial hardship,
- A teen living on your own,
- At risk of losing your home,
- Living without plumbing or electricity,
- Living in a hotel or motel, vehicle or campground,
- Living in a shelter, or
- Living on the street

If you can answer "yes" to any of these living situations, please contact Julia O'Connor by calling or texting (509)322-7131 and let her help you connect with school and area resources.

CHILD FIND NOTICE

The Okanogan School District is required by Washington Administrative Code 392-172-100 to inform patrons of the special education services and programs available within the district.

The State of Washington defines special needs as having concerns with: developmental delays, vision, hearing, health, communication skills, academic performance, social-emotional intelligence, motor abilities, autism, traumatic brain injury, transition services or other disabilities.

People with children from birth to age 21, who have any of these conditions, are encouraged to contact the district's director of special services, Kirk Marshlain at 422-3770, for more information.

Postal Patron

Celebrating the past, embracing the present, shaping the future.

Personnel Directory

OFFICE	PERSON	NUMBER	EXT #
Superintendent.....	Steve Quick	422-3629	
Accts Payable Manager	Eve Roberts	422-3629	1018
Payroll/Personnel	Brenda Stevens.....	422-3629	1012
Business Manager.....	Klancy Allen	422-3629	1013
District Secretary.....	Brandy Williams	422-3629	1011
Transportation Supervisor	John LaGrou.....	422-3300	1017
Maintenance Supervisor.....	Dan Stout.....	422-8623	1016
Special Education Director	Angela Rolfe.....	422-3770	
Special Education Secretary.....	Kim Bird.....	422-3580	2603
Family Empowerment	Julia O'Connor.....	826-7612	
Outreach Principal.....	Roy Johnson	826-7612	
Outreach Secretary.....	Jennifer Heindselman.....	826-7612	
High School Principal.....	Zach Spaet	422-3770	
High School Secretary	Teri Ewer.....	422-3770	3116
Middle School Principal.....	Dorinda Belcher	422-2680	
Middle School Secretary.....	Katherine Brown	422-2680	3133
M.S./H.S. Library	Toni Brown.....	422-3770	3114
M.S. Counselor	Brittany Carden		
H.S. Counselor.....	Karen Chesledon	422-3656	3117
Elementary Counselor	Jennifer Day	422-3580	2227
Vocational Assistant.....	Erin Radke	422-3656	3144
Food Service Supervisor	Klancy Allen	422-3629	1013
Athletic Director.....	Kevin Daling.....	422-4429	3115
Elementary Principal	Jeremy Clark	422-3580	
Elementary Secretary.....	Jolene Keith / Jamie Gavin..	422-3580	2221/2220
ASB/Food Service Coordinator....	Susan Bell	422-2680	3147
Federal Projects Director.....	Michelle Daling	422-3629	2110
Native American Director.....	Kara Staggs.....	422-3770	3159