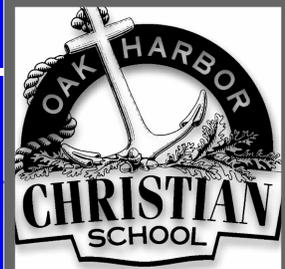


# Eagle Eye



## OHCS Graduating Class of 2015



VOLUME 13  
ISSUE 4  
SUMMER EDITION 15

**PRAISING GOD FOR  
77 YEARS OF  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

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**Congratulations to our 8th grade class of 2015!** The 8th graders concluded their years of education at Oak Harbor Christian School with a wonderful graduation ceremony held at Living Word Fellowship on Tuesday, June 9th.

The students chose Isaiah 12:2 as their class verse:

**“Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.  
The Lord, the Lord, is my strength and my song;  
he has become my salvation.”**

Our prayer is that these students hold fast to their learning at OHCS and know that they are equipped to serve the Lord in these next years of learning in high school. The Lord’s blessings to each of our Graduates!

### **OHCS Society Meeting Update**

*The Board of Trustees called a special society meeting for Tuesday, June 16th at 7 pm. The purpose of the meeting was to approve a revised budget from the previously approved budget at the annual meeting held in April.  
More information on page 2.*

## Congratulations To Our Graduates

- Alex Staercke**
- Nathanael Thompson\***
- Evan Smith**
- Madison Krieg**
- Madeline Lins**
- Megan Hauter**
- Wyatt Bright**
- Justin Ross\***
- Wyatt Nagel**
- Shawn-Dee Billings**
- Nelennie Quichocho**
- Johanna Roseberg\***

*\*President’s Award for 3.5 or Higher GPA throughout their middle school years*



## Board of Trustees 2015-2016

Dan Johnson	President
Robert Ralphs	Vice President
Matthew Nienhuis	Treasurer
Laura Beumer	Secretary
Laura James	Fundraising

The Board meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

## From the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees (BOT) thanks you for your support at the informational meeting on June 1st and the special OHCS Society meeting on June 16th. The BOT has been hard at work in recent weeks, as many of you have, to help keep OHCS fully operational for the coming school year and beyond.

The BOT presented a revised budget for the 2015-16 school year that allows for a preschool through first grade offering with minimal staff. The BOT felt it was important to bring this forward to the OHCS Society since the previous Preschool-8th grade budget that was approved at April's annual meeting was unsustainable with current and projected enrollment.

We as a Society cannot overstate the importance of enrollment to rebuild our desired Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup> grade structure. We are grateful for the recent actions to seek and talk with families to generate interest in OHCS. We appreciate, as well, our wider-community supporters that have expressed interest in scholarship-type support for tuitions.

We are encouraged to see families express interest and enroll. Community and church members have also stepped up and offered support. A lot more work needs to be done before the July 4th weekend deadline where we must retain at least 37 currently enrolled students in grades K-5 and bring in \$125,000 in donations, or the equivalent in student enrollment. If these goals can be met, the BOT would then seek to offer a Preschool through 5th grade class structure.

To our parents and supporters: there is no substitute for enrollment numbers! We continue to lift these needs to our Lord and Savior in prayer as we ask for your continued prayers and support.

For the Board of Trustees,

Steve Thompson

### Board of Trustees Update

The BOT appointed three OHCS Society members to the School Board on Tuesday, June 16th.

**Robert Ralphs, Laura Beumer, and Matthew Nienhuis** are filling Board vacancies until the next Society annual meeting in April 2016. These appointments were necessary to continue functioning with constitutional minimum requirement of five.

Three members ending their terms of service as Trustees:

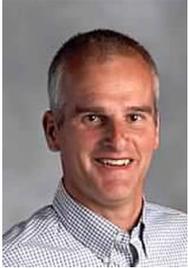
**Steve Thompson, Mike Nagel and David Sherman.**

Each has served for two consecutive 3-year terms, Mike Nagel having served on the Board several times prior to this term. We are grateful for their time and commitment to OHCS. The past few years have been increasingly challenging, yet they have served faithfully.

We are grateful also to those who have expressed interest in serving on the board. The new Board of Trustees is accepting additional board nominees and will appoint a replacement for Dan Johnson's position in November to keep the required minimum of five trustees. All appointees, along with other applicants, will be up for election at the annual meeting.

**“For I know the plans I have for you,”  
declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and  
not to harm you, plans to give you a hope  
and a future.”**

**Jeremiah 29:11**



## A Message From the Principal's Desk

Another school year has come and gone...so hard to believe how fast a year goes by. Now the buildings are quiet as students and teachers are off for what seems to be a beautiful start to our summer vacation. Our prayer is that the Lord will bless each family with opportunities for fun activities together, some rest and relaxation, and an overall enjoyable summer break!

The past school year has certainly been filled with many joyful and proud moments. Our teachers worked diligently each day to welcome their students and helped each to be the best learners they could be. As teachers, we are often amazed at the growth of our students from the beginning of the year to the end, it is quite a transformation. We can certainly be proud of this growth in our students!

I'm also grateful for parents and volunteers who helped make key school events go so well this year. In particular, a big thank you to everyone who helped make the Spring Dinner and Auction a successful fundraiser, bringing in a total of **\$30,606!** The event was a tremendous boost to help the school meet its budget needs for this past school year! A special thank you to **Sandi Mitchell, Carolyn Krider, Cheryl Johnston, Marianne Zylstra, Cathy Fakkema, Erin Peek, Lynne Evans, and Laura Beumer** for their behind-the-scenes work in coordinating this fundraiser. Thank you also to our auctioneer **Leroy Riepma, spotters Dick Fakkema and Marv Koorn**, our wonderful table hostesses and student servers, plus all those within our community that donated items to be auctioned. Thank you again for your support!

The year has also been filled with challenges, particularly in this final stretch of the school year as we continue to see a decline in enrollment for the fall. I am particularly grateful for the Board of Trustees for the tough decisions that had to be made after countless hours of work this past year. I'm also thankful for the teachers and staff and their commitment to fulfilling their daily tasks here at school, especially during this time of uncertainty. As many of us know from the recent meetings, big changes are ahead for OHCS. We are praying for God's leading and direction, for more students to enroll, allowing OHCS to thrive for many years to come. I'm hopeful that we'll be able to look back and see how God has used these challenging times to help us grow closer to Him and further His Kingdom work.

At the end of August, I will conclude my 24 years at Oak Harbor Christian School. I will cherish the wonderful memories formed here with the many students and families I've come to know in my 13 years as a third and fifth grade teacher and 11 years as principal. I know this school well and love it dearly. This school has been my life's work thus far! I'm forever grateful to all who have supported, encouraged and prayed for me along the way. I'm especially grateful to **Lynnette Wright** who has been a wonderful office manager and a pleasure to work with!

I also would like express my appreciation for **Lynne Evans** and **Cheryl Johnston** for their years as our awesome Art and PE teachers; for **Marian Smith** filling the role as choir director this past school year; preschool teachers **EJ Moore** and **Lori Pickerill**, and our TA's—**Erika Heins, Lynne Evans, and Holly Salinger**. You all have been such wonderful people to be a part of the OHCS staff. Thank you so much! I look forward to what the Lord has planned for me in the days ahead. I will step out in faith knowing that step is sure!



## A Heartfelt “THANK YOU”!!!

As another year comes to a close and summer begins, there are always a number of “good-byes” given for those families and staff members that are leaving Oak Harbor Christian School. This year we said our good byes to a few of our military families whose time here on Whidbey Island has ended and with the recent circumstances OHCS finds itself in we also say good bye to several staff members as well. As our school theme expressed, our journey together has certainly been worth taking!

At the June Board meeting, **Anna Melnick, Ann Jaques, and Sarah Smith** were able to attend and receive a formal “thank you” by the Board of Trustees. **Bill Rodeheffer** was unable to attend. Board President, Steve Thompson, addressed each staff member individually and presented each with a small token of our great appreciation for their years of service to the school.



**Mrs. Melnick** came to OHCS in 2004 and has taught a variety of subjects in the middle school—PE, Bible, Language Arts but spent the majority of her time teaching Science and Social Studies. Her passion for education, creative gifts, and her commitment to challenging her students helped them become responsible students, prepared for their transition to high school. She was owner of the most-decorated and exciting classroom that introduced the academic skills of objective observation and communications necessary to move on in school. She also was an OHCS parent, having 4 boys attend OHCS. Anna recently received her National Boards Certification and plans to substitute teach in the public schools while continuing her search for a new teaching position. Thank you Mrs. Melnick!

**Mrs. Jaques** first started her career at OHCS in 2008 as the choir director and also a parent of two children in the elementary grades. Later, after receiving her master’s degree in teaching, she was hired as a classroom teacher and spent the next few years teaching a variety of combination classes in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. Ann’s gifts and talents helped her become a successful teacher amid some unique challenges starting out as a new teacher. All of it was done with love of teaching and nurturing our children and taking these challenges with grace and perseverance. Ann and her husband Don are continuing their search for employment in Oak Harbor and beyond and will rely on God’s leading in this next phase in life. Thank you Mrs. Jaques!



**Miss Sarah** (as her Little Eagles know her) has been involved with the Little Eagles Preschool since 2006, and she quickly became one of the central figures on the preschool staff. Her love and energy invested in the preschool program and each student will be sorely missed, as surely expressed by Michelle McVey (her working partner and preschool director). Miss Sarah also has a passion for photography and used that gift for a lot of picture taking of student life on campus, her Little Eagles graduates each spring, and helping put together our recent OHCS yearbooks. She, along with her son Evan (a 2015 graduate of OHCS) will be moving this summer to the greater Tacoma area and joining her husband Jimmy who accepted a new job there. Thank you Miss Sarah!



**Mr. Rodheffer** has been a part of OHCS for the past 15 years. He has been our long-time middle school math teacher, all school computer teacher and IT manager of our network, as well as band director and track coach. He was also an OHCS parent as he had his son and daughter as students. The many “hats” he wore makes him very tough to replace, which is why OHCS is getting a valuable product that will represent OHCS and Christ’s name to the world. Mr. Rodeheffer has a calm presence with all and will be remembered most by his love of running, skills learned in computer class, floor hockey before school, and his love and commitment to his students. Thank you Mr. Rodeheffer!





## A Few Spring Highlights!

Our spring quarter was a busy one filled with variety of special activities, class projects, and field trips as we wound down another school year!

OHCS middle school students participated in a community service project coordinated with the OH Parks Department. Students planted small trees, weeded, and picked up litter at three parks in town. Our students did a good job, and their efforts were appreciated.



Of the 30+ entries in our science fair this year, we congratulate our Best-of-Show winners as determined by our judges: **K-1—**

**Science Fair** **John Nienhuis; 2/3rd—Lauren Kansy; 4/5th—Lacey Zylstra; 6/7th—Madedy Beumer.** Each science fair participant received a participation ribbon and a science fair t-shirt. Thanks to **Mrs. Laura Beumer** for helping with the fair and coordinating the prizes.



## Reptile Man Visited OHCS!

Many of our students were excited to see the variety of snakes and reptiles that were shown by The Reptile Man at a special assembly in May. Shown here are a few brave students who didn't mind holding a rather large snake, or perhaps "wearing" one of these incredible creatures. Very courageous!



## More Congratulations!

Several students received recognition for work in the following:

**Lacey Zylstra and Aspen Sherman** were

state-level classroom finalists in the 2015 Zaner-Bloser Handwriting Contest; **Halle Johnson** was selected as a Washington State semi-finalist in the Washington Library Association Contest sponsored by the Secretary of State's office...Halle was one of over 1,600 participants!

Several 4th and 5th graders were recognized in the Whidbey Island Writers Contest:

1st place: **Taryn Ralphs, Jeremy Houser, Reed Rowley and Anna Johnson;**

2nd place: **Lacey Zylstra and Rory Moore;** 3rd place: **Jacob Swanson, Colin Diamond, and Lindsay Brown;** Participation Awards: **Ainsley Nelson, Bradyn Bachman, Ashley Bledsoe, Grace Hannold, Alana Miller, Tyanna Gibson, and Ambyrlie Johnson.**

**Subway** also provided the class with lunch on Friday after reading a "Best Restaurant in Oak Harbor" letter written by **Ashley Bledsoe!**

## OHCS Memorial Scholarship Awards

**Congratulations to Elias Thompson, Olivia Waite, and Halle Johnson** who were selected by their teachers to be recipients of the three memorial scholarship awards.

Elias—Aaron Vandenbroek Scholarship

Olivia—Nancy Garden Scholarship

Halle—Janneke VanderKooy Scholarship

Congratulations to each student! They are well deserving of these awards!



*A Foundation for Excellence  
in Christ-Centered Learning*

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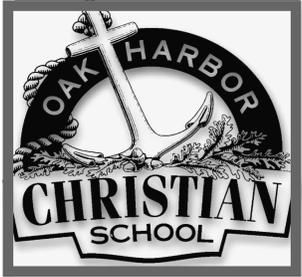
## Thank You Parents!

Your involvement in  
Oak Harbor Christian School  
has not gone unnoticed.

Your assistance in classroom  
activities, volunteering for  
school needs, and your  
attendance at school events  
and on field trips is greatly  
appreciated!

We hope you were able to  
create lasting memories  
with your child's experi-  
ence here at OHCS!  
Thank you again!

*Visit us online at*  
**[oakharborchristian.org](http://oakharborchristian.org)**



## OHCS 2015-16 Calendar of Events

### September

- 7 Labor Day
- 8 First Day of School—Noon Dismissal
- 9-10 First Days of Little Eagles Preschool

### October

- 9 CSI Teacher's Convention
- 12 Columbus Day—No School

### November

- 6 End of 1st quarter—Noon Dismissal
- 11 Veterans Day—No School
- 25-27 Thanksgiving Break

### December

- 18 Christmas Break Begins at Noon
- December 21—January 1—No School

### January

- 4 Classes Resume
- 18 M.L. King Day—No School
- 29 End of 2nd Quarter—Noon Dismissal

### February

- 15 Presidents' Day—No School

### March

- 25 Good Friday/Easter Weekend

### April

- 1 End of 3rd Quarter—Noon Dismissal
- 4-8 Spring Break

### May/June

- 25-26 Last days for Preschool
- 16 Final day of school for elementary students

## YARD SALE!

**August 8th**  
Location TBD

Donations are being  
accepted for a  
massive yard sale  
benefiting  
Christian education  
in Oak Harbor.

Contact Liz  
(909) 983-3133  
Or Laura  
(801) 870-6545  
For more information

## OHCS Registration Continues!

OHCS is continuing its registration of Little Eagle Preschool, Kindergarten and 1st grade students for the coming 2015 –2016 school year. Families considering OHCS for the first time or plan a return to OHCS are strongly encouraged to register their child(ren) now!

We invite parents of eligible children to contact us today. Call Lynnette Wright in the school office at **675-2831** or email her at [ohcs@oakharbor.net](mailto:ohcs@oakharbor.net) for enrollment information.



## Summer Office Hours:

9:00 am to Noon until the end of June. The office will be closed during July, but opening again from 9 am to Noon during the first week in August. Feel free to leave phone messages or send an email, the office staff will check both often throughout the summer! Thank you.