



Osan Middle School Thunderbirds

Providing a Setting of High Expectations
to Engage and Motivate All Students in
a Successful Learning Environment

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Parent Connection

"Providing a setting of **high expectations** to **engage** and **motivate** all students in a **successful** learning environment"

The vision statement above guides our continuous school improvement efforts. Below, is a brief unpacking of our vision that we hope will be useful to you in terms of promoting community understanding and investment.

Our expectation is to be the best middle school in the Pacific. We will measure the attainment of this expectation via our accreditation status. An accreditation status rating of "Highly Functional" in each AdvancED accreditation standard is our long-term pursuit.

Student engagement is pursued via the use of research-based instructional strategies that are shown to increase achievement. The strategies that we are pursuing on a school-wide basis are: questions, cues, and advance organizers to activate prior knowledge; use of graphic organizers and non-linguistic representations to enable students to conceptualize information; and, use of note taking and summarizing to promote meaningful processing of information. Students interact with presented information in classrooms via Cornell format (developed at Cornell University) as it provides an integrated platform for our chosen instructional strategies. Our staff is also pursuing a systematic focus on formative assessment as a means to inform instructional decisions and differentiation.

Our vision's specification of student motivation is important. We are working toward developing habits of self-directed learning and leadership behaviors by providing opportunities, encouragement, and recognition.

Finally, our vision calls for OMS to be a successful learning environment. One important way we will measure success is via student achievement. Less than 5% of students in 1st TerraNova quartile and greater than 50% in the 4th TerraNova quartile. We believe that the pursuit of this vision will enable us to ensure that your children are well prepared for an exciting future.

Onward!

Jeffrey W. McGee, Principal

READ ACROSS AMERICA!

Wednesday, 2 March, is Read Across America Day in celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday. A cornerstone of Read Across America is the encouragement of children of all ages to read or have someone older, such as an adult, read to them. With the approval of Mr. Petree, the OAES Principal, and Mr. McGee, the OMS Principal, many Osan Middle School teachers and their students will walk to Osan American Elementary School (OAES) to read to students. Thank you to Ms. Dunham for coordinating this activity which is meaningful in multiple ways!!

THANK YOU TO THE OSAN COMMAND!

A "shout-out" goes to our Mission Support Group for the continuous support of our school and programs. The MSG's first question always is "what can we do to help you?" The support of the MSG and entire Osan command structure is exemplary, an asset to this community, and integral to OMS vision attainment. Thank you!

STUDENTS LEAVING OMS

25 Feb: Julie Kim

Stay Connected by regularly visiting our website:
www.osan-ms.pac.dodea.edu/

Also, if you have not already done so please register on Gradespeed to view your child's grades.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

26 Feb: Volleyball at GSIS

1 Mar: PTSO Mtg at 1730

4 Mar: Progress Reports (Mid Quarter)

11 Mar: Educator's Day, NO SCHOOL

15-18 Mar: TerraNova Testing

