

Subject: This Week @ Ogden International

Date: Monday, October 9, 2017 at 9:54:34 AM Central Daylight Time

From: Michael Beyer, Cara Kranz, & Stacie Chana, Ogden International School of Chicago (sent by Michael Beyer, Cara Kranz, & Stacie Chana, Ogden International School of Chicago)



This Week @ Ogden International

Dear Ogden International families,

We are creating more initiatives to encourage better attendance at Ogden International. We know some parents were upset by the letters that went home due to their child's attendance being below a certain threshold, but this is a procedure at all Chicago Public Schools. Attendance is critical, not just for your child's education, but for *all children*.

Absences cause teachers to do extra work to give absent children make-up assignments or reteach concepts they missed. This takes time away from children who were present. Absences also affect the learning community in every classroom. Learning is not a rote activity. If it were, we could replace teachers with computers. Learning is a communal action among people, and children learn best from their peers. *This can only happen when there is a stable environment.* Absences, and tardies, are the *main disruption* to the learning community. Everyone is tardy on the rare occasion, but frequent tardiness is disruptive and a selfish behavior. Preventable absences are similarly a selfish choice because it has real effects on your child and the whole learning community. Please live the IB philosophy and be selfless, and avoid absences.

We apologize if you received the letter and your child had excusable absences. Please know that we take no further action other than mailing the form letters if we determine absences are excusable.

To encourage better attendance, if East Campus surpasses 96% attendance for the year, and if West Campus surpasses 90%, Dr. Beyer, Ms. Kranz, Dr. Chana will camp out on the roof of East Campus at the end of the year! If students with the best attendance want to join us, we will invite up to 30 students to camp out on the roof! If the Chicago Fire Department approves, Dr. Beyer will bring a fire pit and we will cook S'mores!

Student fees: A parent asked if a family can donate to pay for another student. if you'd like to donate, click [HERE](#) and select "Donation to Ogden". We will ensure this is used to pay a fee for a student who's family cannot pay and cannot volunteer time in lieu of payment. After we identify the student(s) who benefit from your donation, the student will write a letter to share their gratitude. Ogden never ceases to amaze me with the generosity! Families are living the IB philosophy of helping one another and building a stronger community.

Ogden Sports: If you can't help with a student fee, then please support our Ogden sports teams by purchasing and wearing Ogden athletic gear! Go to [THIS](#) website. You can buy some new gym gear and show off Ogden pride when you work out, or you can purchase on behalf of a player. Sale ends October 13th, and clothing will arrive the beginning of November. A portion of all proceeds goes to the Ogden Sports Booster Club.

Safety: On a more serious note, in light of the tragedy that happened in Las Vegas, a parent reached out asking how we ensure the safety of our students, and we realized we have never described all the security measures in place.

At the start of every school year, all faculty and staff receive training on safety drills. Procedures are shared, along with expectations for what documents such as rosters teachers should always have on hand. Even though this training happens every year, inevitably staff ask questions posed as "what ifs", challenging everyone to think deeply about how to maintain safety at all times, but especially during emergency situations.

During the first three months of school we practice safety drills with all students,

faculty, and staff for evacuation, shelter-in-place, and lock-down situations. After each drill we review how we did and how we can improve. There are district-wide protocol for safety and security guidelines that are constantly reviewed, revised, and practiced.

At Ogden East Campus, we have 150 high-definition security cameras, both internally and externally, from the parking garage to the roof, that can pan and zoom. This is one of the best systems in all of CPS. West Campus has a system more typical of schools, with 30 cameras that are constantly monitored by a security guard.

Ogden has invested heavily in a system that allows our radios to communicate between both campuses. This required expensive digital radios and a transponder to link the two campuses. This allows instant communication so we can share information and track students if, for example, they don't show up on the middle school shuttle.

We have trained teachers but also students to never open side doors, even for other students and teachers. We require everyone to enter through the main door, which is monitored by a security guard. The side doors are constantly being watched via the cameras to ensure no one enters without permission.

Every Chicago Public School is directly tied to Chicago's Office of Emergency Management. All cameras can be monitored by security in their office on Madison street, where Chicago police officers and other first responders are housed, allowing for immediate coordination if an emergency occurs. Our security guard, Mr. Cesar Ravelo, received a promotion to join this office due in part because of how well Ogden has handled safety issues. Now he can continue keeping an eye on Ogden, but from the Madison Street location!

Along with access to cameras, the Office of Emergency Management has contact information of all school leadership, along with information on bell schedules, exits, and other critical information. This information is shared with all sister-agencies, such as the Chicago Police and Fire Departments.

We have had emergencies in the past. Two years ago a student scrawled a threat on a wall at West Campus. (This is the most common cause of lock-downs in schools across the country, and the CPD responds to similar threats

on an almost daily basis at schools across the city, both public and private. Since Columbine there is not a single school that takes threats lightly.) We instantly went into lock-down mode, and the issue was immediately escalated to CPS Security. Because both campuses are close to downtown, CPD arrived in less than one minute. With the use of cameras we quickly identified which students entered the room during the known time frame, and the perpetrator was identified by comparing handwriting samples. The school was locked-down instantly, police arrived nearly immediately, and in less than one hour we had identified who wrote a few words on a wall. Lastly, but just as importantly, the student began receiving the social and emotional support they needed.

I am very proud of our response to safety and security issues, and we take safety seriously, and we are constantly improving our procedures.

Please continue reading below to learn more about what is happening at East and West Campus.

Sincerely,



Dr. Michael Beyer, Principal

East Campus

Week of October 9, 2017 Specials Schedule: Click [HERE](#) for the schedule.

- Monday, 10/9 = Holiday (No School)
- Tuesday, 10/10 = **A**
- Wednesday, 10/11 = **B**
- Thursday, 10/12 = **C**
- Friday, 10/13 = **D**

The recess schedule will follow **Week B** (students again rotate from patio to roof & vice versa).

[October PTA Calendar](#)

Next week is our PTA sponsored school spirit week:

- Monday, 10/16 is Pajama Day
- Tuesday, 10/17 is Sports Day

- Wednesday, 10/18 is Wacky Wednesday
- Thursday, 10/19 is Ogden Wear Day
- Friday, 10/20 is International Day

Note from Mrs. Kranz: First through fifth grade students received their progress notes on Friday. Please sign and bottom portion and return the slip to school to indicate to your teacher that you reviewed the grades with your child. If you have concerns about your child's grades, please do not hesitate to make an appointment with your teacher so you can understand how to best support learning at home.

Kindergarten parents: Your child did not receive progress notes due to the way in which kindergarten progress and grading is structured by CPS. Please know that if there is a concern about your child's academic or behavior progress, the teacher will be in contact. In addition, some parents continue to enter the cafeteria in the morning at drop off. We limit parents/adult entry into the building for the safety of our students and staff. Your compliance is greatly appreciated.

Breakfast: Breakfast on the go bags are available at no cost to every student at the main entry as well as the cafeteria. Students may take one bag and we just ask that they report to the teacher so we can get an accurate count daily.

Drama: Interested in learning more about what happens in your child's drama class with Ms. Hancz? Check out her website at ogdendrama.weebly.com.

GCC Supply Drive: Next week is the supply drive for our Global Citizen Center. Read more [HERE](#) about how you can help!

IB Home Connection: The Primary Years Program in IB believes that structured inquiry is a powerful vehicle to learning that promotes meaning and understanding, and challenges students to engage with significant ideas. There is also a commitment to a **concept-driven curriculum**. The IB PYP has a Science scope and sequence that identifies the overall expectations considered appropriate in the PYP. Ogden East teachers have built upon this and developed our own scope and sequence to ensure that students have access to learning that helps them not only meet their current grade level goals, but the goals of the program over time. Check it our draft scope and sequence document [HERE](#).

West Campus

Note from Dr. Chana: A big thank you to all the staff and students who participated in hosting our visiting international students from Milan, Italy. Additionally, congratulations to all of the students who focused diligently and took their first practice PSAT/SAT assessment of the year.

Progress Reports: West Campus Progress reports will be distributed on Wednesday October 11th, 2017 during Advisory. As always please check parent portal and feel free to reach out to your student's teachers directly.

Picture Retake Day: October 11th, students will have the opportunities to take retake photos if desired. Please contact Ms. Lane if you have questions regarding photos (lllane@cps.edu).

Haunted West Campus: October 27th, we will host our first Haunted West Campus Dance, sponsored by the Athletic Department and Senior Committee.

- Tickets will be sold online beginning October 7th-October 25th for \$12. (Ogden website->Quick Info->Pay Fees)
- Tickets will be sold at the school during the lunch periods only on October 26th and October 27th for \$15.
- Tickets will be sold at the door for \$20.
- At the event there will be an optional Haunted House experience for \$2 per visit, in addition to concessions sold. (Cash only please for these options)
- All students must leave school promptly at dismissal on the day of the dance, and will be allowed to return at the start time of their respective event.

Students must have 93% attendance and no failing grades to be eligible to attend this event.

Student attendance/grades will be reviewed on October 26th for students who purchase online to determine eligibility. Please do not purchase a ticket for your student if you are in doubt as to whether they are meeting the attendance/grade requirements, as they will be ineligible to attend.

Sponsored by: Ogden Athletic Department and Senior Committee. Please contact Mr. Short (dshort@cps.edu), Athletic Director for questions

Middle School Anti-Bullying Assembly:

Middle School Parents: "Dont Be a Monster" will be going in to perform to 6th-8th grade during advisory on October 25th in the auditorium. This performance will be about Anti Bullying. Please contact Ms. Smason (rsmason1@cps.edu) or Ms. Strait (kmstrait@cps.edu) if you have any additional questions.

Ogden International Weekly: Please read the West Campus Weekly [HERE](#).

Sports

For more information about sports, contact our athletic director, Mr. De'Andre Short: dshort@cps.edu.

Calendar

Monday

No School -- Holiday

Tuesday

Girls Scouts, 3:45pm @ East Campus
Athletic Booster Meeting, 6pm, @ Mahoney's
Hearing and Vision screening at East Campus
LSC Meeting @ West Campus, 6pm

Thursday

Girls on the Run @ 3:45, East Campus Room 215
Primal Roots Give-Back pick-up at East Campus

Friday

Junior Girl Scouts #23057 in Art Room @ 3:30pm

Reminders

Attendance matters each and every day!

Be on time!

Avoid early dismissals!

East Campus arrival is 8:15am. Students are tardy if they enter after the 8:30am arrival bell. If you arrive even one minute late, your child will be disrupting the Morning Meeting for everyone. Please be on time! Dismissal is at 3:30pm. Please avoid early dismissals, as they are disruptive to the entire classroom. Please support our school by not requesting dismissals between 3:00 and 3:30pm.

West Campus arrival is 7:30am. Students are tardy if they enter after the 8am arrival bell, it is strongly suggested that students arrive prior to 7:45 to have time to pass through security, go to their lockers and make it to first period on time. Dismissal is at 3:15pm, and students must exit the building if not in a supervised pre arranged activity. Please avoid early dismissals, as they are disruptive to the entire classroom. Please support our school by not requesting dismissals between 2:30 and 3:00pm.

Students at each campus will be excluded from special events and extra-curricular activities if their attendance is too low or have chronic tardiness.



[Calendar](#) 

[Athletic Calendar](#) 

[Pay Student Fees](#) 

[Report an Absence](#) 

[Check Student Grades](#) 



Dr. Michael Beyer, Principal

Mrs. Cara Kranz, Head of East Campus, grades K-5

Dr. Stacie Chana, Head of West Campus, grades 6-12



An Ogden International School education engages a **K-12 diverse** student body with **inquiry-based** learning experiences fostering **empathy, critical thinking** and **global mindedness** for the world of tomorrow. Ogden International's globally-recognized IB programmes provide **concept-based, academic frameworks**, and **student centered learning** by **inquiry** grounded in **global context** and **real life situations**.

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Our mailing address is:

East Campus (Grades K-5):

24 West Walton Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610

Phone: 773.534.8110, Fax: 773.534.8017

West Campus (Grades 6-12):

1250 West Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60642

Phone: 773.534.0866, Fax: 773.534.0869

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