

# OAKRIDGE

## January Newsletter

January 2024 | [schools.graniteschools.org/oakridge](https://schools.graniteschools.org/oakridge)

## Principal's Message

*Dear Oakridge Families,*

*Happy 2024!* Winter has arrived and we want to make sure that our students are coming to school prepared for the weather conditions. Students will go outside for recess unless the temperature is below 20 degrees or there is poor air quality. The recess guidelines for air quality are included at the end of this newsletter.

We are beginning to plan for next school year. It is time for us to get the names of our incoming kindergarten students for the 2024-2025 school year. If you have a child who will be five **on or before September 1st, 2024**, please contact the office as soon as possible to start the registration process. Help us share this information with friends and neighbors in the community too. It is important for us to have accurate numbers to plan for the correct number of classes.

*More on next page >>*

## Events

### Lion King Rehearsals

\*See Lion King section for the schedule

### Donating Lost & Found

Friday 1/12

### MLK Jr. Day | **NO SCHOOL**

Friday 1/15

### Spanish Program

Tue & Thu 7:45a

### Breakfast

Every school day 8:10-8:40a

### PlayWorks Jr. Coach Meeting

Thursdays 1/11 & 1/25 | 3:20p-4:20p  
*4th & 5th Grade Only*

### Leadership Costume Days!

- Jan 12th Crazy Socks
- Jan. 26th Fave sports team

### Gifted & Talented Testing: K,1,2

1/29 & 1/31

We will also be sending home a questionnaire to find out student plans for next school year. Please return this form to indicate if your child will be attending Oakridge in the fall. This information is critical to help us with our school staffing plan and class sizes.

I love our students and school community. I am proud of the growth our students are making. The teachers will celebrate your student with you at conferences next month.

Our dedicated team of educators and support staff go above and beyond to create a nurturing and enriching environment for our students.. Their hard work does not go unnoticed, and we are grateful for the positive impact they make each day.

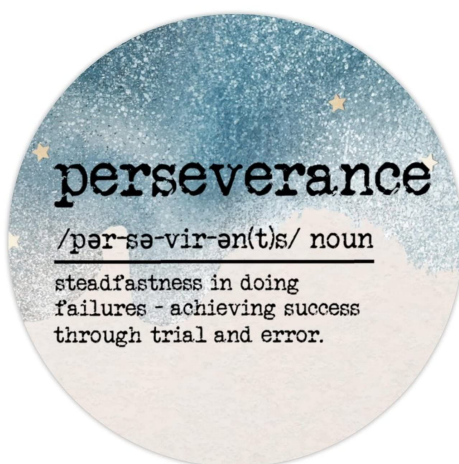
I would love your help to celebrate our staff members. If you have a specific experience or anecdote that highlights the exceptional efforts of a particular staff member, feel free to share it.

*Thank you for all you do to support our school faculty.*

*Mrs. Bergera*

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## PBIS Monthly Focus: **Perseverance**



- **Jan. 8** Goal Setting
- **Jan. 15** Growth mindset
- **Jan. 22** Hard work
- **Jan. 29** Persistence and Grit

# PTA News

We are looking for 2 new board members for the 2024-2025 school year. Current openings: **Membership & Legislative/Advocacy VP.** Please email [oakridgeolympiansPTA@gmail.com](mailto:oakridgeolympiansPTA@gmail.com) if interested.

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**Art Night: Olympian/Oakridge Showcase**  
Our first meeting will be at **9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 17th.**

Going forward, we will be calling this event **Olympian (or Oakridge) Showcase** instead of **Arts Night**. We want to use the night to celebrate all of the work that our students have done throughout the year, and raise funds for programs beyond just the Arts. We'll get into more details at the meeting. Would love as many volunteers as possible to bring this great event together.

**4th grade is stocking snacks in the teacher lounge in January, 5th grade is February.**  
[Sign up on this link](#)

**SEP Conferences & Bookfair**  
2/7 & 2/8 | Need Volunteers!  
[Sign up on this link](#)

**Art Night Mtg.**  
1/17 Wed @9a | Need Volunteers!

[Become a member of the PTA or make an open donation here](#)

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## Technology Coach

Last month, our technology coach collaborated with upper-grade teachers to guide students in exploring their computer software skills using **Adobe and Canva, with a focus on creating virtual holiday cards.** Additionally, all students took part in introductory **computer science coding activities** as part of Computer Science Education Week. This exposure not only enhances their technological skills but also **fosters problem-solving abilities and a deeper understanding of the digital world, preparing them for future success in various fields.**

*Sam Mitchell*





# FUTURE OLYMPIANS!

OAKRIDGE ELEMENTARY 24-25 REGISTRATION

**SPREAD THE WORD!**

*Oakridge Elementary* is ready to receive applications for  
**KINDERGARTEN (AND 1ST-5TH GRADE)!**



**FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN**



**AWARD WINNING ACADEMICS**



**'A' GRADE SCHOOL**

## TO REGISTER:

- Feel free to reach out! Our contacts are below.
- More info at [schools.graniteschools.org/OAKRIDGE](https://schools.graniteschools.org/OAKRIDGE)

## OAKRIDGE CONTACTS

- Call 385.646.4936
- Email [zpshane@graniteschools.org](mailto:zpshane@graniteschools.org)



# Literacy Coaching

Our teachers and students have been working hard to set individualized goals in **reading and writing!** As a literacy coach, the best part of my job is helping students and teachers create an *actionable plan* to achieve their goals. Oakridge teachers know their students' strengths and needs, and we are working hard to help every student grow and be challenged. Recently, I have helped teachers look at data and build reading groups that challenge all our students using researched based materials. We are also working together to incorporate strong writing instruction into our day, especially in the areas of science and social studies. We want our kids to see themselves as writers and be excited about the writing process! I love being part of the great things happening at Oakridge!

*Jessica Muse*

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# Instructional Coaching

Greetings! I am Archer Birrell, your instructional coach, and I'm excited to share some of the great things I'll be working on with some of our teachers this third quarter. The third-grade teachers and I will dive into the **fascinating world of science, with an emphasis on weather, ensuring that our science lessons are not only informative but also captivating.** Simultaneously, we'll embark on an **engaging math facts challenge, specifically designed to make learning math enjoyable** for our third graders. This dual focus aims to enrich the overall learning experience, reinforcing key skills and fostering a love for both science and mathematics. Additionally, I'll be working closely with our second-grade teachers to **support their writing lessons using the incredible Four Square method.** Four Square is a writing organizer that has time and time again supported students in becoming proficient essay writers. I'm excited to make this third quarter an exciting and enriching journey for our second and third grade students. **Also, thank you for making me feel so welcome at Oakridge. I love being here in this incredible community & with this wonderful school faculty.**

*Archer Birrell*



# Open Position Kitchen Asst.

3-5.75 hours a day | \$18.81 Hourly Rate

## **Nutrition Service Worker of Substitute** | Hourly

Assists in food preparation and distribution of school meals  
Cleans up kitchen, service areas and equipment.  
Performs minor routine equipment and maintenance.  
May be required to move objects weighing up to 50 pounds.  
Handle money and make correct change during meal service.  
May perform additional duties.

## **Qualifications**

Must have and maintain a current  
Salt Lake County Food Handler's Permit.  
High school diploma or equivalent.  
A valid driver's license is helpful

If interested, reach out directly  
to Principal Bergera  
[vbergera@graniteschools.org](mailto:vbergera@graniteschools.org)



# Hello Lion King Families,

Happy New Year!!

I hope that everyone is having the best holiday break! We are so excited to get back to "Lion King" rehearsals! Since we are getting closer to the performance time, we are adding more practices. **We are adding Fridays for the 3rd-5th graders**-so they will be meeting on Wednesdays and Fridays in January. Please see the attached calendar schedule.

*I will be holding **OPTIONAL K-2 rehearsals on Fridays** in the music room. If you are bringing an older sibling to the Friday morning rehearsal, I know it is more convenient to bring the younger sibling as well. We will be practicing music while the older students are learning the choreography. If your younger children want a sleep in day, that is totally fine! Friday practices for them in January are **OPTIONAL**.*

Thank you so much!!

If you have any questions about casting, rehearsal, or anything related to the play, please contact **Rachel Buchanan** [rachel-buchanan@comcast.net](mailto:rachel-buchanan@comcast.net)

Rehearsal Schedule  
on the next page.



# Lion King Schedule

# JANUARY

2024

2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		<b>All Cast</b> K-2: Music Room Hyenas: Computer Lionesses: Spanish 3-5: Auditorium		<b>3rd-5th</b> Auditorium  <b>K-2nd</b> Music Room (OPTIONAL)
1	2	3	4	5
		<b>All Cast</b> K-2: Music Room  3-5: Auditorium		<b>3rd-5th</b> Auditorium  <b>K-2nd</b> Music Room (OPTIONAL)
8	9	10	11	12
		<b>All Cast</b> K-2: Music Room  3-5: Auditorium		<b>3rd-5th</b> Auditorium  <b>K-2nd</b> Music Room (OPTIONAL)
15	16	17	18	19
		<b>All Cast</b> Auditorium		<b>3rd-5th</b> Auditorium  <b>K-2nd</b> Music Room (OPTIONAL)
22	23	24	25	26
		<b>All Cast</b> Auditorium		
29	30	31		



# Shriners Donations

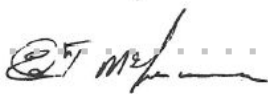
We would like to thank everyone that donated to Shriners Hospitals for Children last month! Every toy counts and makes a child's day, so we are very grateful to everyone that volunteered to organize and participate in this lovely charity event. Thank you to the Adler Family for facilitating this opportunity.

This Certificate of Kindness was awarded to us and belongs to everyone that chipped in, so thank you all!

## **Kids Helping Kids** **Certificate of Kindness**

*Thank you for supporting  
Shriners Hospitals for Children — Salt Lake City*

Oakridge Elementary



Chairman, Board of Governors



Date



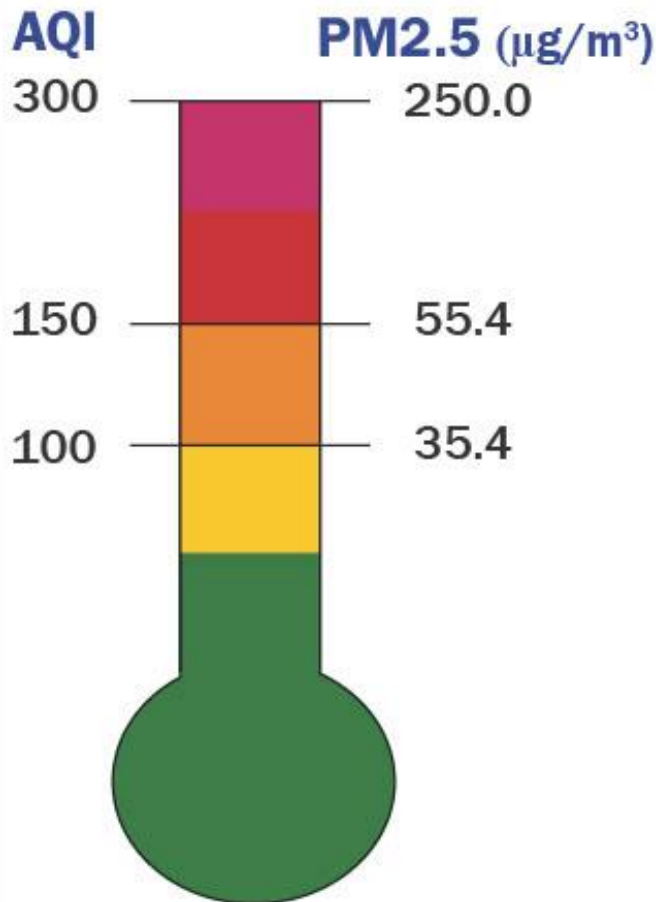
**Shriners Hospitals**  
for Children® — Salt Lake City

# Recess Guidance for Schools:

When to schedule indoor recess based on air quality.

## Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5 & Air Quality Index (AQI)\* Levels

## Recommendations for Recess



**PM2.5 above 55.5**

**All students stay indoors.**

**PM2.5 35.5 - 55.4**

**Students with respiratory symptoms\*\* & sensitive students\*\*\* stay indoors.**

**PM2.5 below 35.4**

**All students outdoors.**

Check PM2.5 levels at [air.utah.gov](http://air.utah.gov); click on "Current."

### Indoor Recess Activity

The school makes the final decision regarding when and where to hold recess. We encourage schools to consider active options for indoor recess. See examples at [health.utah.gov/asthma](http://health.utah.gov/asthma).

\***AQI** is the EPA's index for reporting daily air quality, based on 5 main air pollutants. It tells you how clean or polluted your air is, and its levels of health concern. Learn more at [airnow.gov](http://airnow.gov).

\*\***Respiratory symptoms** may include coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath, and chest tightness.

\*\*\***Sensitive students** may include those with asthma, cystic fibrosis, chronic lung disease, congenital heart disease, compromised immune systems, or other respiratory problems.

Parents, with the advice of their health care provider, should inform the school if they believe their child is part of a sensitive group and should have limited outdoor physical activity when air quality is poor.



## Your child should stay home sick from school if they have these symptoms:



- **Respiratory illness** (cough, runny nose or sore throat with a fever).
- **Signs of severe illness** such as being unresponsive, irritable, crying more than usual, is having difficulty breathing, or has a quickly spreading rash.
- **Fever** (temperature above 101°F [38.3°C] by any method) and a change in behavior or other signs and symptoms (such as a sore throat, rash, vomiting or diarrhea).
- **Diarrhea**, defined as having more frequent and loose stool (poop) than usual that's not caused by a change in diet.
- **Vomiting 2 or more times in the previous 24 hours.** The exception is if the vomiting is found to be caused by a non-infectious condition, and the child is not in danger of dehydration.
- **Abdominal pain that continues for more than 2 hours**, or abdominal pain that comes and goes, along with fever or other concerning symptoms.
- **Mouth sores with drooling that the child cannot control**, unless their doctor or local health department authority states that the child is noninfectious.
- **Rash with fever or behavioral changes**, until a primary care provider determines that the illness is not a communicable disease. If your child has a new, rapidly spreading rash that resembles bruising or small red or purple "blood spots," call 911.
- **Skin sores that are weeping fluid** located on an exposed part of the body that cannot be covered with a waterproof bandage.
- **Streptococcal pharyngitis** (such as strep throat or other streptococcal infection), until at least the first 12 hours after antibiotic treatment has started.
- **Head lice, scabies and ringworm** until after the first treatment. School exclusion is not necessary before the end of the program day. When treatment starts between the end of the program day and beginning of the next day, no exclusion is needed.
- **Chickenpox (varicella)** until all lesions have dried or crusted (usually 6 days after onset of rash) and no new lesions have showed for at least 24 hours.
- **Hepatitis A virus infection**, until 1 week after onset of illness or jaundice or as directed by the health department.



This information is based upon the guidelines from the: Utah Department of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and the American Academy of Pediatrics.



# When it's OK to stay at school:



- **Coughs or colds** without fever or other signs of illness.
- **Runny noses** (regardless of color or consistency of nasal discharge).
- **Yellow, green, white, or watery eye discharge without fever**, even if the whites of the eyes are red (pinkeye).
- **Ear infection**, unless the child has a change in behavior or cannot participate as usual.
- **Rash without fever and without behavioral changes.** The exception would be a child with a new, rapidly spreading rash that resembles bruising or small red or purple 'blood spots.' In that case Emergency Medical Services (911) should be called.
- **Thrush** (white patches on the inside of the cheeks, on gums, and the tongue).
- **Fifth disease** (a common viral infection with red "slapped-cheek" rash occurring 4-14 days (up to 21 days) after the start of the viral infection).
- **All staphylococcal infections.** This includes Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) carriers or children with colonization of MRSA but without an illness that would otherwise require exclusion.
- **Molluscum contagiosum (wart).**
- **Hand-Foot-and-Mouth disease.** No exclusion is needed unless the child has mouth sores with constant drooling or has other symptoms like fever. In some cases, the local health department may require children with hand-foot-mouth disease to stay home to control an outbreak.

This information is based upon the guidelines from the: Utah Department of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and the American Academy of Pediatrics.