



Principal's Corner

JANUARY 2018

Our Children...Our Legacy

Great things are happening on the campus of Oakwood Adventist Academy. As a principal, I believe every school needs to tell its story to inform and inspire its most invested stakeholders, the parents of its students. For this reason, I will be writing a monthly newsletter called The Principal's Corner. My goal is to spark conversations about how we are bringing the school's vision; developing tolerant, collaborative, independent thinkers who are rooted in their faith, to fruition in the life of your children. Thank you for your support and partnership in Developing, Nurturing, and Affirming our students.

Our children are a heritage from God, they are our legacy and as parents, its not uncommon to lose sleep praying for them and dreaming about the great future that awaits them. Every Christian parent hopes they are making the right decision on which school they have chosen to cultivate their child's Spiritual, academic, and social growth. A school where their child is challenged to reach beyond what they see to what God has in store for their lives. Beyond the financial sacrifice, curricula comparison, and graduation and college acceptance rates; your child's education is a faith journey. At Oakwood Adventist Academy, we know that when you leave your children in our hands each school day that we have the profound privilege to develop, nurture, and affirm your children's efforts and gifts.

I have the dual privilege of being the principal and the parent of three children at Oakwood Adventist Academy. I have a first row seat to all the amazing things that happen every day and at every level of OAA. The things I see every day fulfill my dreams for my children's

education and also affirm our goals as a team of educators to prepare our students to be leaders in society and followers of Christ.

High School:

I walk into Chaplain Daniels' classroom and see students engaged in a conversation about Bible truths while Chap paints a picture using Biblical context to make the doctrines more relatable. I see Ms. Pressley's Biology class boarding a bus to visit the Hudson Alpha Institute of Biotechnology where they will be analyzing cell data to determine cancer propensity in a teenage male. I marvel at the dedication of Mr. Plank as he pushes his drama team members to new heights in their ministry. I see students from all grades participating in thoughtful, challenging, and developed physical education courses.

Middle School:

I walk down the hall of the middle school and see students working together to solve mathematical problems while using grids outlined on the classroom floor. I see Mrs. Williams smiling with pride as her students present their findings on Latin American cultures. I peak my head in the OEMSA (student government) meeting and see student leaders planning an assembly.

Elementary School:

I hear the voices of our kindergarteners as they add single digit numbers in unison with Mrs. Callender leading their chorus. I hear Mrs. Johnson's class singing praise songs while a group of students graciously practice a praise dance for assembly. I sit in Mrs. Harvey's class amazed at the growth, and more importantly the academic intensity, of her 3rd grade students.



The cumulative impact of the work and dedication of all of the faculty and staff at OAA that I see everyday can now be seen by all. It can be seen in our standardized testing scores, the number of students on the Honor Roll and Principal's List and the number of acceptance letters from Universities across the country. Most importantly, I share in the joy of fellow OAA parents as I watch my three children strive for the greatness that has been laid in front of them by God's hands. This is why I am so proud to be part of Oakwood Adventist Academy.

I pray you too will see the blessings God has bestowed on your children while attending Oakwood Adventist Academy and that you will share your experience with others.

Blessings,
Gabriel Madrid
Principal, Oakwood Adventist Academy

Please respond to this letter by emailing me at gmadrid@myoaa.org.



OAKWOOD ADVENTIST ACADEMY