

OCEAN GROVE CHARTER SCHOOL

~ September 2005 ~



Welcome!

Welcome to one of our newest IEM Charter Schools! We are excited that you have chosen to join us on this new adventure. As you go to our website at www.ogcs.org, you will see that our schools are truly unique! What sets IEM managed Charter Schools apart from other public schools is our commitment to **parent choice**. Providing optimum parent choice is the cornerstone of all of IEM's school programs.

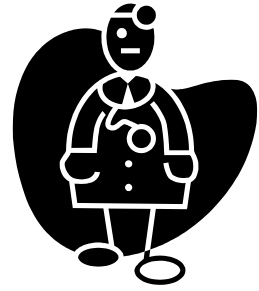
Why are we such strong advocates for parent choice? We know that every child is different, with unique interests, abilities and learning needs. We believe that you, the parent, knows your child best! For this reason, you are the best suited to make choices about your child's education.

As you take on this responsibility, your fully-credentialed Education Specialist will be there to help you every step of the way. Our teachers have a wide range of knowledge about curriculum, educational philosophies and teaching methods to meet each student's individual needs. Our professional, caring Education Specialists will help you make decisions on how best to teach your child each subject. For example, you may choose to have your child learn math using a traditional textbook, completing in-depth math projects, enrolling in an online computer class, or even form small-group classes with other students and a qualified teacher. And, our program is flexible; the methods you choose can change as your child's needs change. Please keep in mind that our parents guide us. IEM Charter schools will create the classes and educational activities that our parents request.

IEM Charter schools typically grow quickly due to the passionate commitment of our parents. Please help us to spread the word about this charter school in your community. This "grass-roots" effort pays rich dividends for all of our students. As our numbers increase, along with the programs our parents help create, more opportunities will await future Charter school students. Our charter schools can be all that our parents' dream of; with IEM Charter Schools, the sky's the limit!



Requirements for 1st Graders



Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP) is a preventative health program serving California's children and youth. CHDP makes early health care available to eligible children, not only children with obvious health problems, but also to children who seem well. The CHDP program works with the Department of Education in administering and monitoring this requirement and assists low-income children to meet the requirement by providing them with state-paid health assessments.

CHDP School Requirements:

By law, all children entering the first grade are required to have either a certificate of a CHDP health examination or a waiver on file at the school in which they enroll. School health examinations must be completed within 18 months prior to or 90 days after 1st grade entry unless the parent or guardian signs a waiver stating they do not want, or they are unable to obtain an examination for their child.

If you have questions regarding the CHDP requirements please call Cary Sharp in Student Records at 800-979-4436.

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Planning and timely action can make a difference in how much money you have to pay for college. You can start early by setting up a college savings account. It is important to research ways to finding money for college. Talk with friends who have students in college, attend financial aid meetings in the area, and go to local college fairs. Most colleges have their own scholarship and financial aid programs available through their Financial Aid Office, but most colleges require that you have submitted a FAFSA application (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). You can check the college website for financial aid information (for California colleges check out www.californiacolleges.edu). Make sure to meet deadlines.



Important Information for Seniors – Class of 2006:

- ✓ Apply for CSU and UC online between October 1 and November 30.
CSU – www.csumentor.com UC – www.ucop.edu/pathways
- ✓ Contact independent colleges and occupational career schools for admission materials and financial aid application procedures.
- ✓ **Financial Aid Information...** The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and is the application used for all types of federal financial aid – for junior colleges, trade schools, colleges and universities! All graduating students planning to attend a junior college, trade school, private college, or university should apply. File between January 1 and March 2, 2006 at www.fafsa.gov . For state aid, request a GPA Verification Form from the OGCS guidance office and file between January 1 and March 2, 2006.

College Entrance Exam Test Dates and Deadlines



Test	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
ACT	Sept 24	Aug 19	Sept 2
SAT I & II	Oct 8	Sept 7	Sept 14
ACT	Oct 22	Sept 16	Sept 30
SAT I & II	Nov 5	Sept 30	Oct 12
SAT I & II	Dec 3	Oct 28	Nov 9
ACT	Dec 10	Nov 4	Nov 17
SAT I & II	Jan 28	Dec 22	Jan 4

To Register:

SAT – www.collegeboard.com

ACT – www.act.org

School Code : 0110007

If you are a college-bound student, please make sure to take the PSAT during your Sophomore and Junior year. You could qualify for the NMSQT scholarship program which is only available to juniors who score well on the PSAT.

Curriculum News

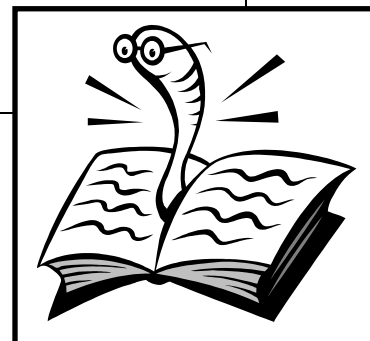
CDE Search

The CDE Search will search for California aligned/adopted curriculum for grades K-8 with ISBN numbers and prices for ordering.

Go to the following link and follow steps

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cr/cf/ap1/plsearch.asp?sub=Mathematics%20%28Adoption%20of%202001%29>

- *Step 1: Select a subject.*
- *Step 2: Select a grade level (you do not need to select the publisher).*
- *Step 3: Skip this step.*
- *Step 4: Click "Submit".*



Packaged Curriculum Available From Approved Vendors

Calvert/S. Campbell has traditional, textbook-oriented curriculum packages available for students, grades K-8.

Core Curriculum of America provides individualized curriculum package for K-12 students. Curriculum packages are compiled from a variety of publishers through a phone interview with parents. Through the interview Core Curriculum of America's representatives are better able to determine which materials would be more appropriate for individual students. Parent note: Be sure to provide your ES's name and e-mail address to the phone representative during the interview in order to allow for prompter PO processing.

Curriculum Services has comprehensive curriculum packages available for K-12 students. Packages cover core subjects plus provide options allowing for individualization at each level.

Oak Meadow has packaged curriculum with a Waldorf flavor available for K-12 students.

The Great Books Academy has "classical education" curriculum packages for K-12 students.

7th Grade Immunization Requirements

There are now 7th grade immunization requirements. Students entering 7th grade in both public and private schools now need additional shots. They need 3 hepatitis B immunizations* and a second measles (or MMR) shot. A Td booster is recommended as well. The school will ask to see your child's Immunization Record as proof of immunization.

It takes a minimum of 4 months to complete the series of three hepatitis B shots. In order for your child to enroll for the 7th grade he/she must have started the series. Please take a moment to review your child's immunization record and plan ahead.

* A 2-shot series of hepatitis B vaccine for 11-15 year olds can meet the requirements depending on the vaccine your doctor provides. Check with your school.

Exemptions

The law allows permanent or temporary medical exemptions. If exempted for medical reasons, a doctor's written statement is required. If immunizations are contrary to the religious or personal beliefs of the parent, a personal beliefs waiver needs to be signed. (On the back of the California School Immunization Record is a personal beliefs waiver to be signed by the parent. Make sure the student's name, address, and birthdate are written on the front of the form and that the signature is in the personal beliefs box on the back.)

For further information, contact your physician, school nurse or local health department. This information was provided by the California Department of Health Services, Immunization Branch, 2151 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.

Assessment News

Following is information on specific test subjects per grade level. Please use this information to incorporate these subjects into your curriculum design this year. Also, by visiting the following Internet address you can access various in depth resources covering each test subject area: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/resources.asp>



Star Testing Subject Areas Per Grade Level				
Grade	<i>CST(California Standards Tests)</i>	<i>CAT6(California Achievement Tests)</i>	<i>NCLB Science tests</i>	<i>Writing Essay (given on separate dates)</i>
2	English-Language Arts Mathematics			
3	English-Language Arts Mathematics	Reading /Language Arts Spelling Mathematics		
4	English-Language Arts Mathematics			Writing Applications
5	English-Language Arts Mathematics Science			
6	English-Language Arts Mathematics			
7	English-Language Arts Mathematics	Reading /Language Arts Spelling Mathematics		Writing Applications
8	English-Language Arts Mathematics History-Social Science		California Science Standards Test	
9	English-Language Arts Science			
10	English-Language Arts Mathematics History-Social Science Science		California Life Science Standards Test	
11	English-Language Arts Mathematics History-Social Science Science			
California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE)must be passed to receive a diploma				
Grade	Test Dates (very specific grade levels allowed per test dates)			
10		Feb 7, 8		May 9,10
11	Nov. 1, 2			May 9,10
12	Nov. 1, 2			May 9,10

PERFORMANCE

Series

Computer Adaptive Internet Assessment for Schools

No one knows his or her way around the classroom like Scantron. For more than three decades Scantron has led the industry in data collection and assessment systems designed to meet educator's needs – from the first “bubble tests” to the latest in computer adaptive technology. As more and more school districts are embarking on a systemic reform of education and holding districts, schools, teachers, and students accountable to the standards, the demand for a comprehensive standards-based accountability system has increased. With this in mind, Scantron's solution is designed to target the instructional level of each student according to a set of specific standards (California Content Standards) and to ensure that *No Child is Left Behind*.

Scantron's latest educational tool provides teachers and administrators with an assessment tool that uses the power and immediacy of the Internet.

What is it?

The *PERFORMANCE Series*™ utilizes an innovative computer-adaptive, Internet based model to target the instructional level of each student by altering question difficulty based on previous answers. Once the test has been completed, the results are immediately available providing an accurate evaluation of the student's abilities – in approximately 45-60 minutes for the longer version and approximately 20 minutes for the shorter version which we will be using this year. *PERFORMANCE Series*™ will help your teachers place students at the appropriate instructional levels (target grades 2-12). Educators can use this product to evaluate skill mastery, place incoming students, and provide immediate reports to parents and tutors on progress made as the course proceeds. The advantage of the Scantron assessment solution over traditional assessments is that it measures actual growth of each student.

The content areas that are available are Reading, Math, Language Arts, and Science. We will be using the areas of Reading, Math, and Language Arts this year. There is also an add on program called Skills Connection Online (SCOL) that will help you easily create remedial activities and assessments for your students which target the skills that they need along with a home study guide. The advantage of SCOL is that it provides an online integration with the *PERFORMANCE Series*™ program so you can seamlessly generate a test for students based on the standards suggested from *PERFORMANCE Series*™. Your teachers will be able to generate a test now in seconds and have them tie back the items to specific state standards. Special Education departments like to use *PERFORMANCE Series*™ to help write the IEP goals. They also benefit from Skills Connection Online to create pre and post assessments to measure if the students have met their learning goals that were identified.

How it works

Every student participates in a unique, Web-based assessment that adapts automatically to the student's instructional level, quickly honing in on questions that fit — they're neither too easy nor too hard. Once completed, customized reports allow each student's instructional level and academic gains to be measured and tracked over time based on Pennsylvania State objectives and standards. You will now have accurate knowledge of which skills have been successfully attained and which still needs to be focused on for each and every student. Your teachers can quickly identify and determine learning gaps to ensure that all students get the most from the instruction.

Staff Development

In order to get the maximum benefit of this testing solution and to expedite implementation, Scantron requires a minimum of two (2) full days of Professional Staff Development.

- The first of the two-day mandatory onsite training sessions is the "pre-assessment" training, which is referred to as the *Site Set Up Training*. This session instructs attendees how to develop an understanding of *PERFORMANCE Series*™ and learn how to prepare the site(s) for immediate student testing.

- The second day of the two-day mandatory onsite training session is the "post assessment" training, which is referred to as the *Data Interpretation Training*. In this session, attendees' will develop a further understanding of *PERFORMANCE Series*™, access test results and reports, and interpret data for classroom applications.

Where is it currently being used?

It is being used in over 45 states throughout the United States. Many large districts such as Cobb County, GA, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Baltimore County, MD, and Bay County, FL have found success with our *PERFORMANCE Series*™.

Internet Connection - System Requirements

Since *PERFORMANCE Series* is Internet based, students must have a solid Internet connection. Typically this means a T1, DSL line, or the equivalent. The stronger the students' Internet connection, the more students can use the system at the same time.

Internet Browser Requirements



Every Macintosh or Windows computer to be used for testing must be connected to the Internet and must have one of the following Internet browsers installed: Microsoft Internet Explorer version 4.01 or higher* or Netscape Navigator version 4 or higher*.

Here are the guidelines:

- **A solid Internet connection, such as a T1 line, DSL, etc.**
- **Either Internet Explorer** (version 4.01 or newer) **or Netscape Navigator** (version 4 or newer)
- **A Windows PC** (Pentium 16MB RAM)
- **Or a Power Macintosh** (24MB RAM)

To certify a computer and browser on the Internet, use the computer in question to log on to <http://test.edperformance.com/check>.

2005/2006 Dates to Remember

August	September	October
<p>August 29 First Day of School!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All ES meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Parent Council Election Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Begin Scantron Testing</p> <p style="text-align: center;">September 5 – Labor Day</p>	<p>Pumpkin Patch Trip</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>
November	December	January
<p>November 1 – CAHSEE ELA 11th & 12th grades</p> <p>November 2 – CAHSEE Math 11th & 12th grades</p> <p>November 11 – Veteran’s Day</p> <p>November 23-25 - Thanksgiving Break</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Parent Council Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">December 22 - Winter Break Begins</p>	<p>January 5 - School Resumes</p> <p>January 16 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day</p> <p>January 20 – End of 1st semester</p> <p>January 23 – 2nd semester begins</p>
February	March	April
<p>February 7-8 CAHSEE (10th & 12th Grade Only)</p> <p>February 17-20 – President’s Day</p>	<p>March 7 - STAR Writing Test (4th & 7th Grade Only)</p> <p>March 8 - STAR Writing Test (4th & 7th Grade Only, Make-ups)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Parent Council Meeting</p>	<p>April 4 – May 10 – Star Test Window</p> <p style="text-align: center;">April 8-17 Spring Break</p>
May	June	<p style="text-align: center;">OGCS Staff Directory</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Michael Talerico mtalerico@ogcs.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Becky Cote bcote@ogcs.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Janet Marsh jmarsh@ogcs.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sheri Calderon & Loie Varner School Secretaries</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1-800-979-4436</p>
<p>May 9 CAHSEE ELA Gr. 10,11,12</p> <p>May 10 CAHSEE Math Gr. 10,11,12</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>	<p>June 2 – Last Day of School!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Parent Council Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Annual School Picnic</p>	

Join the **OGCS Parent Listserve!**

Stay informed on upcoming events and activities by becoming a member of the Ocean Grove Parent Listserve.

Email jeretzloff@ieminc.org with a request to join the group!