

Oakridge Middle School

ADMINISTRATION TEAM

Margaret Jackson
Principal

Michelle Gordon
Assistant Principal

Joseph Duda
Assistant Principal

Cindi Block
Office Manager

Jay Vicarella
Facility Manager

GUIDANCE STAFF

Andrea Kirk
Counselor A-K

Barbara Clark
Counselor L-U

Janet Boe
Counselor V-Z

Jan Jimmerson-Popoli
Secretary

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Naples, FL 34119

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A Message From the Principal

Dear Oakridge Middle School Families,
Happy Quarter 2!

It's hard to believe that we have already finished the first quarter of the school year. As you read this newsletter, we will already be closing in on the second quarter interim.

Activities during the second Quarter include:

- 6th grade students will be taking a field trip to the Big Cypress Preserve for the annual "Swamp Trip."
- 7th grade students will see a performance of The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe performed by the Fl. Rep. Theatre.
- 6th graders will see an Extreme Science Show that will lead our 6th graders on a wild journey through different fields of science!
- Second quarter interim period ends 11/19.
- Thanksgiving Break will take place from 11/25-11/29.
- Mid-Terms will be given during the week of December 16th-20th. Each examine will be 80 minutes in length. Exams may not be given early. A half-sheet will be sent home for you to post on your refrigerator with the entire exam schedule.
- December 20th (last day before Winter Break) will be an early release day with dismissal being at 12:50. We will be having a special spirit day for our students- Pajama Day!
- Winter Break will take place from 12/23-01/06.
- Academic Vital Statistics program has begun on a weekly basis through Language Arts classes. The goal is to encourage and develop students' self-efficacy, leadership, and ownership of their own learning. Students are examining their grades in each of their core classes, writing in any missing assignments, and their attendance. The students put the form in a protective sleeve and it is placed in their binder. Look for it their binder and let your child explain what is happening in their classes.

As the year progresses, the month of November and December can be challenging because we have all been together since August the 15th and we know that we have two breaks heading our way. I am going to remind everyone (teachers and students alike) to keep the academic focus as much as possible. We still have a lot to be accomplished this year.

continued on page 2...

A Message From the Principal

...continued from cover

Thank you for sending your children to OMS. I have been so happy with the behavior, the politeness, and the positive attitudes I have experienced so far. Your support of this school makes our jobs so much easier. We appreciate all that you do!

Go Bulldogs!

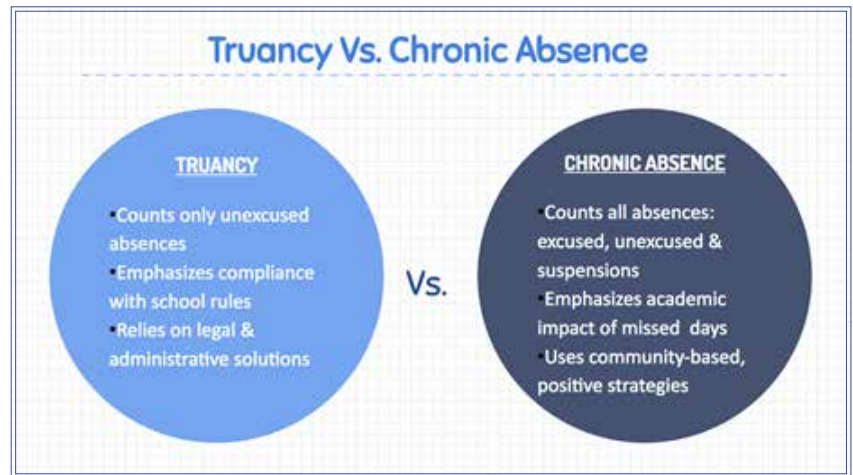
M. Jackson
Principal OMS



Office of Attendance and Discipline

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.

While chronic absence presents academic challenges for students not in class, when it reaches high levels in a classroom or school, all students may suffer because the resulting classroom churn hampers teachers' ability to engage all students and meet their learning needs.



Did You Know?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with schoolwork, dealing with a bully or facing some other potentially serious difficulty

What You Can Do

Make school attendance a priority.

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day; make that the expectation.
- Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day.
- Don't let your child stay home unless truly sick. Complaints of headaches or stomachaches may be signs of anxiety.


*** COMPLIMENTARY PORTFOLIO REVIEW ***

Darryl E. Young, AAMS
FINANCIAL ADVISOR

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What You Can Do (continued)...

Help your teen stay engaged.

- Find out if your child feels engaged by his classes and feels safe from bullies and other threats. Make sure he/she is not missing class because of behavioral issues and school discipline policies. If any of these are problems, work with your school.
- Stay on top of academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors if necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage meaningful afterschool activities, including sports and clubs.

Communicate with the school.

- Know the school's attendance policy – incentives and penalties
- Talk to teachers if you notice sudden changes in behavior; these could be tied to something going on at school.
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not piling up.
- Ask for help from school officials, afterschool programs, other parents or community agencies if you're having trouble getting your child to school.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10 percent, or about 18 days, of the school year can drastically affect a student's academic success.
- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every few weeks.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.

–Mr. Joseph A. Duda, *Assistant Principal, Attendance / Discipline / Operations*



Student Arrival and Departure

Oakridge employees are not responsible for supervising students arriving on campus more than 30 minutes before school begins or 30 minutes after the end of the school day (3:50). Students should not be on campus before 8:25 unless there is a purpose (academic, club, or athletics). Similarly, students should not be on campus after 04:15, unless participating in the After-School Enrichment Program, a sponsored club, or athletics.

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Student Clubs, After School Programs & Athletics

These are a few of the programs offered in the past:

Academic World Quest	NJHS	Technology Club
Book Club	Robotics	Tutoring
Chess Club	Scholar Bowl	T.V. Crew
Cooking Club	Student Council	Yearbook
Debate Team	Technology Club	Cross Country
Entrepreneurial Club	Tutoring	Track & Field
Intra Mural Sports	T.V. Crew	Basketball
Kindness Club	Scholar Bowl	Volleyball
Math Counts	Spelling Bee	Soccer
Newspaper	Student Council	

Athletic Director:

Coach Bremseth - BremseCh@collierschools.com

After School Director:

Ms. Mapes - MapesAp@collierschools.com

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Counselor News

The School counselors are bustling with activity at this time of year! We are currently involved with benchmark testing, parent teacher conferences, student mediations, and scholarship programs. In addition, school counselors are at all lunches daily to promote visibility and enhance communication with the students.

Just a reminder that there are 2.5 school counselors in the guidance office here at Oakridge Middle School, and our guidance secretary is Mrs. Poppoli. The breakdown in student assignment is as follows:

- Andrea Kirk **Students A-K**
- Barbara Clark **Students L-U**
- Janet Boe **Students V-Z & ELL Students**

We are looking forward to getting to know the students and working together with them to create a positive environment where they can thrive and be academically successful!



Immunizations

All students entering 7th grade must have the following immunization on record with the school before classes begin on the 13th. Please contact Linda Campbell, in the office if you have any questions.

- DTaP Series (Note: If final dose was administered before 4 years of age, an additional dose is required.)
- 1 dose of Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap)
- Polio Series*
- Hepatitis B series
- 2 doses of Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)
- 2 doses of Varicella (chickenpox)

*Note: If final dose was administered **before** 4 years of age, an additional dose is required. A 4th dose is not required if the 3rd dose is administered at 4 years of age or older. If the 4th dose was administered **prior to** the fourth birthday, a 5th dose of polio **is** required.

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Dress Code 2019-2020

Students and parents need to be aware of the importance of good grooming and its effect upon the learning environment. Good taste is knowing where and when to wear the appropriate clothing and accessories. Since the home provides the funds, guidance, and upkeep of the student's clothing worn in school, it is the responsibility of the parent to see that grooming reflects the modesty and good taste expected in school. In addition to the OMS Dress Code, all other aspects of the CCPS Code of Conduct for dress also apply. No ripped or torn clothing is allowed to be worn. Clarification page is also on the OMS website.

Student ID

- Student ID with grade appropriate lanyard must be worn at all times.

Tops

- Any solid color collared polo style shirt, long or short sleeved. Polo shirt may have a logo if smaller than 2" in size.
- Bottom of shirt 1-3" below waist.
- Any OMS shirt is acceptable on Spirit Days only.

Outerwear

- Solid colored outerwear only.
- Logo is acceptable if smaller than 2" in size.
- Polo shirts must be visible beneath the outerwear (collar showing). Option to wear OMS sanctioned logo.

Footwear

- Closed toed and closed heel shoes only. No heels, wheels or rollers.

Bottoms

- Solid color knee length shorts, skorts, skirts, or polo style dresses. Solid color pants or jeans (NO jeggings, yoga pants).
- No athletic shorts, sweat pants, or stretchy (lycra) material. All bottoms must sit at waist.

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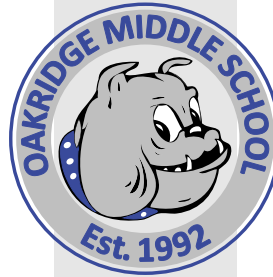
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Bulldog Enrichment Program

The Bulldog Enrichment Program offers enrichment activities and classes for students from 4-5pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Students can participate in homework help, learn to play chess, engineer buildings with LEGO's, play basketball, learn the benefits of Yoga and Pilates, just to name a few. There are 3 Sessions each year. Each session is approximately 10 weeks long. Classes are subject to change each session. The cost is \$30 per 10-week session. Bus transportation is available for students who are already eligible to ride the bus to and from school. Car riders must be picked up no later than 5:15pm.



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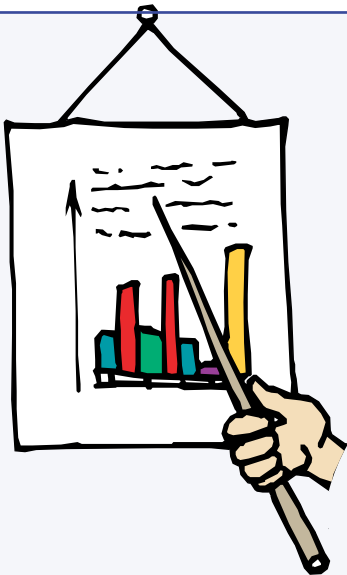


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Cindi Block
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Vital Statistics

Those words might sound like a trip to the doctor but they actually apply to a Collier County Public Schools initiative for academics! At Oakridge Middle, students will be performing this district goal by checking their Academic Vital Statistics weekly to make sure they are on the path to success. All students will check their grades and attendance as well as making sure to stay up-to-date with all assignments. Students will track to make sure they are not missing assignments and are here in school to stay successful. For the second quarter, we will be taking this look during our Language Arts classes. We need your help with this by asking to see your bulldog's plastic

sleeve forms weekly. Students will be filling them out and then transporting them home for your review. Having students take ownership of this important step of self-monitoring (with a little guidance from school and home) will truly help turn our students into SPIKE (Successful – Positive – Innovative – Kind – Empowered)!! Thank you for your support with this.

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