



# PAW PRINTS

ORMOND BEACH MIDDLE SCHOOL

VOLUME 7 • ISSUE 1 • FEBRUARY 2022

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## SCHOOL INFORMATION:

Susan Tuten  
*Principal*

Robert Voges  
*Assistant Principal 8th Grade*

Melissa Ciulla  
*Assistant Principal 6th and 7th Grades*

Susan Kelleher  
*Assistant Principal Student Services*

151 Domicilio Avenue  
Ormond Beach, FL 32174  
386-258-4667

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians

As we all know, Covid has impacted student achievement. Some refer to it as an “Achievement Gap” due to the gap in learning school closure, hybrid and/or virtual learning developed. With that being said, know every OBMS student is a top priority. I encourage you to check your student’s grades weekly, communicate with teachers and set accountability and guidance for your student. As a team, we can provide the best learning opportunity for every OBMS student. Should you need assistance with Parent Portal, please give the office a call.

Exciting things are planned for the remainder of the school year. We will continue to celebrate our students with no tardies to class and who have made the Honor Roll each quarter. We have spring programs in the planning stages, our Basketball season is upcoming, seventh grade students will be visiting Tallahassee, while eight grade prepare for the Williamsburg, VA trip. Sixth graders can look forward to a trip during the 4th quarter. More specific information for our sixth graders will be available soon. While we are excited to have these planned, Covid could affect these at any time. We certainly appreciate your understanding should this occur.

Not only has Covid affected academics, we are also seeing changes in student behavior across the district. I am excited to share that Volusia County Schools will be bringing back the teaming approach to all middle schools for the 2022/2023 school year. The teaming approach will have students scheduled with a team of four core teachers: ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies. The team’s classrooms will be arranged physically close to one another to help foster a community feel. Each core teaming group will select a team name, create team expectations, select a team mascot and more. This will allow the teachers to support their students as a team. This could include, but is not limited to cross subject area projects, fieldtrips, problem solving, and support needs for individual students.

We are also excited to have AVID at our school and to be able to offer it to all grade levels starting next year. AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, provides a proven system that will impact all students and prepare them for high school and make them college and career ready! Read more about our AVID program in this newsletter.

*continued on page 2*



### Mission Statement:

To close the opportunity gap through challenging and engaging thinking to prepare students for college and career readiness in our global society.



# Letter From The Principal

continued

**"Paw Prints"**  
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## AVID AT A GLANCE

for Parents & Families



**What is AVID?**  
 AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, helps schools and teachers make learning more meaningful and engaging. Research tells us that the most powerful influence on academic achievement is a caring teacher. When students care and connect to both their learning and their teacher, they will succeed!



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**Nationally, AVID students excel in success metrics, which is impressive given the adversity they face.**

- ▶ Low socioeconomic status
- ▶ Underrepresented race/ethnicity
- ▶ Parents have no college experience

<b>98%</b> graduate from high school	<b>93%</b> complete four-year college entrance requirements	<b>79%</b> are accepted into four-year colleges	<b>88%</b> persist into their second year of college
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**Doesn't your student deserve the AVID experience?**  
 For more information, contact your guidance counselor and ask about AVID at OBMS.

www.avid.org | info@avid.org

continued on page 3

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# Letter From The Principal

*continued*



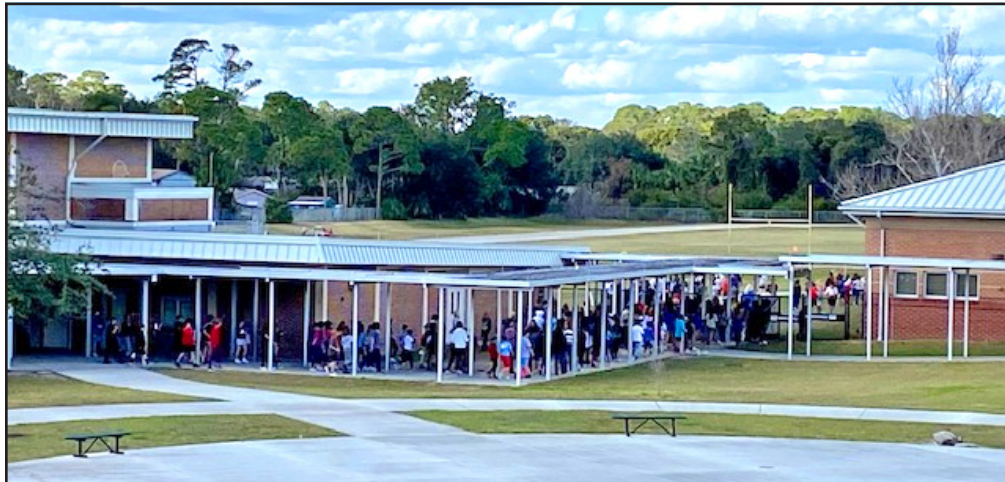
**More Good News:**

IXL Math is available 24 hours a day for students enrolled in the program. Mr. Ariani, Ms. Brock, Ms. Demchak and Ms. Wagers are seeing student learning gains increase due to their use of this program. Encourage your child to spend some extra time at home using the program to help him/her close the achievement gap.

Thank you for your continued support,  
Susan Tuten, Principal

## Fire Drills

While we wish they were not necessary, school security drills play an important role in ensuring that everyone is prepared and protected in the event of an emergency situation. It builds confidence in staff and students that they are prepared for an emergency. Preparing students for school drills can go a long way in reducing their fear and stay safe in an emergency situation. Students participate in Evacuation (Fire) and Lockdown drills monthly. Each semester, they also practice Hold, Secure, and Shelter drills.



*Panthers walking out of classrooms in a calm timely manner practicing the importance of proper fire (evacuation) drill techniques.*

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## STEM

Mrs. Davies' STEM Technology classes at OBMS are busy building model rockets, CO2 dragsters and LEGO kits. We are learning about 5S lean manufacturing and continuing to apply the Engineering Design Process to our projects.

Three class periods have built a total of 65 model rockets, and we are in the process of launching the rockets outside on our well-kept playing fields. 8 students are building CO2 dragsters and 5 are in the process of being painted. Other students have built LEGO kits and are organizing a LEGO lab using the 5S system.

Robotics/Manufacturing students are assembling elaborate robots with the LEGO EV3 expansion kits. The goal is to think of ways to apply the robots to a manufacturing process and then program them to perform a task. Other manufacturing students are learning about manufacturing technology and primary and secondary processes.

OBMSTEM thanks VMA, Volusia Manufacturers Association, for their contributions to our manufacturing program. Thanks to Mrs. Castelli, Mrs. Monahan, the VCS STEM department and the CTE department for their support.

Please enjoy our display in the main office when you visit OBMS and follow us @OBMSTEM on Twitter. Thank you for your support of our STEM program!




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## What's New With National Junior Honor Society

NJHS members will be meeting on January 28th and February 14th.

New members to our Erasmus Chapter will be inducted during the fourth quarter. Qualifications into NJHS require a 3.7 cumulative GPA for the first three quarters, a minimum of four enrolled classes for the academic year at Ormond Beach Middle School, no more than one 2 in conduct, and no referrals.

This year's sponsors are Ms. Wagers and Ms. Murray.

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## Social Studies Fair

On Friday, January 7th OBMS students competed in the annual Social Studies Fair. Congratulation to the winners!

### Website:

1st: Rucker Feezor

### Documentary:

1st: Isabell Canady

2nd: Talia Coes & Alana Roos

### Historical Performance:

Arrianna Tilley

### Exhibits:

1st: Rivers Leary

2nd: Ada Oler

3rd: Isaac Cane

### Crafts:

1st: Kipton Brown

2nd: Zorin Desantis

3rd: Kaia McFarland

### 3-D Maps:

1st: Jackson Robison

2nd: Jillian Heller

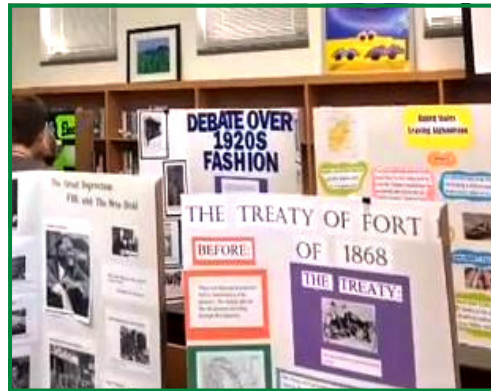
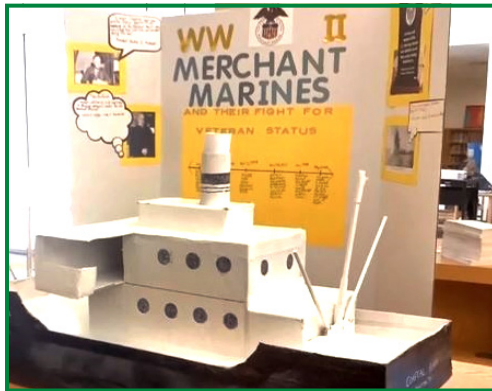
3rd: Ethan Hauch

### Geographical Maps:

1st: Brayden Dodson

2nd: Emily Fahringer

3rd: Beckett Denison




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## Attention! To: All Parents Of Current 6Th Graders

### Immunization Requirements

This is a reminder that you will need to have your child's immunization requirements on Florida Form 680 turned in PRIOR your child entering 7th grade.

In addition to all other compulsory school immunizations, children entering, attending, or transferring to seventh grade in Florida schools are required to complete the following:

### One dose of tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis vaccine (Tdap).

When your child has received his / her immunizations, please bring the immunization certificate to the school. We would appreciate your child getting this done at the earliest possible convenience.

Please do not wait until the last minute, Thank you!!



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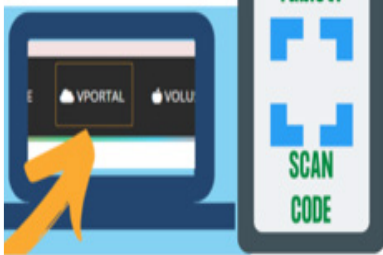


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## Media Center News

- The media center will celebrate our top 100 readers for the third quarter with a huge event in March. Our students have read over 2,000 novels!
- Stop by the media center to select one of our Sunshine State Novels to read. On April 13th, our Panthers will be voting for their favorite Sunshine State Novel for 2021-2022. In order to vote and participate in the event, students need to have read three or more of the novels and pass the Reading Counts quizzes for them. The Volusia County Elections Department will be on our campus so that we can use the equipment for our "official" voting day.
- Need tutoring or technology assistance from a peer? Stop by the media center before school for assistance from one of our Techsperts! Students are welcome to print out their class assignments and work on their projects before school. See Ms. Murray for more information.

## Honor Roll Party - 2nd Quarter

Congratulations to the 459 OBMS students that made the Honor Roll!!! We will be celebrating you during Panther Time with a special treat and a fun UNO tournament. Keep up the great work Panthers!

## No Tardies - 2nd Quarter

More than 380 students were recognized with a "No Tardy Party" during the week of January 10th. This celebration was for all students who received no tardies during the second grading period. Students reported to the cafeteria during their Panther Time to receive a sweet treat, gather with their friends, and watch a video in recognition of their achievement.



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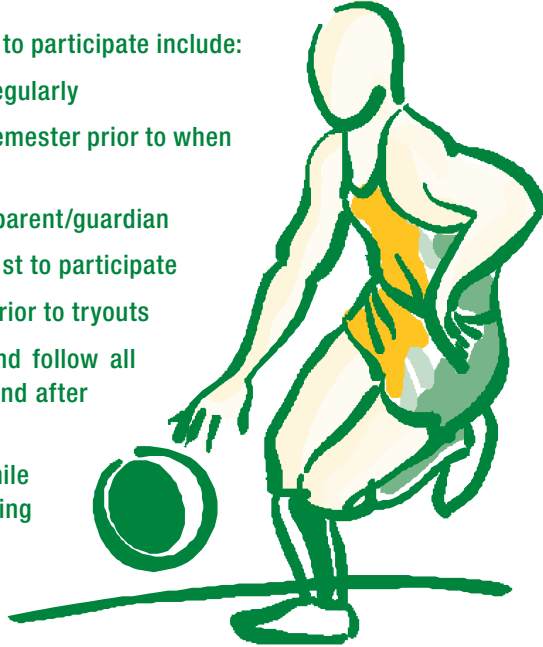


## Basketball

The 2022 OBMS Basketball season will be starting soon. Open Gym for both boys and girls interested in trying out for the Panther Team will begin in February. Students interested in participating must submit a Consent & Release Form and a Physical Form before they are able to participate. These forms can be picked-up in Mrs. Ciulla's Office, Building 3 Room 120. Both forms must be completed in their entirety and returned to Mrs. Ciulla before a student can participate.

Additional requirements that must be met to participate include:

- Must be enrolled at OBMS & attend regularly
- Must maintain a 2.0 GPA during the semester prior to when he/she wishes to play
- Must have a consent form signed by parent/guardian
- Must not turn 15 prior to September 1st to participate
- Must undergo a physical evaluation prior to tryouts
- Must display good sportsmanship and follow all rules of competition before, during, and after every contest.
- Must refrain from bullying/hazing while a member of the team or participating in school sports



If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Ciulla at (386) 258-4667 Ext. 53924.

**A few spots are left!**



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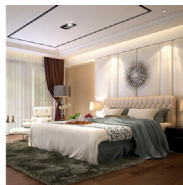
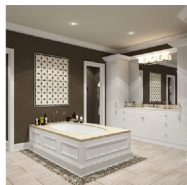
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## Five “Must Do’s” For Parents To Assure Success In Middle School



- 1. GET AND STAY CONNECTED.** Register and access our online parent access software, monitor your child’s progress on a weekly basis and communicate with your child’s teachers if you have questions, concerns, or if you’d like to request additional information regarding resources that may help your child master course standards. Be aware of what’s happening in your student’s school life and TALK ABOUT IT. Your interest and involvement has a tremendous effect on your student’s performance and attitude at school.
- 2. ESTABLISH A SOLID HOME STUDY ROUTINE.** Encouraging and supporting this vital activity will improve your student’s attitude and performance at school and instill a work ethic that endures for a lifetime. SET A SCHEDULE. Establish a regular timeslot for this important daily activity. Seek your child’s agreement and commitment to reserve this time each day for homework and study. Encourage this discipline. CREATE THE ENVIRONMENT. Students can be easily distracted. Teach them to create an atmosphere conducive for concentration. Minimizing social media access, loud music, and other detractors will improve effectiveness and retention. Having a defined study area works with some students but not all. The most important factor is the discipline of doing it every day. OBSERVE AND ENGAGE. Psychologists suggest that it takes three weeks to break or establish a habit. Commit three weeks to assisting with your student’s daily routine. Make good homework practices a habit for both of you.
- 3. MAKE DAILY ATTENDANCE THE EXPECTATION.** Very few things have as much negative effect on academic performance as poor attendance. Be clear in your attitude towards attending school every day. In the working world, attendance is equated with dependability.
- 4. ENCOURAGE EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY.** Involvement in any of our many clubs, sports, and arts programs improves academic performance, attendance, and discipline issues. We have something for everyone. Participation in these activities enhances school life and looks good on career and college applications. Also, help your child plan and execute community service, which is a requirement for earning Bright Futures scholarship money.
- 5. HELP YOUR STUDENT PLAN FOR POST-GRADUATION.** Talk to your student about career interests and passions. Several online career questionnaires are available such as [http://www.careeroutlook.us/assessment/short\\_shtml](http://www.careeroutlook.us/assessment/short_shtml) that may help. Assist with a search for colleges or technical training programs that will prepare them for a career that interests them. Learn the entrance requirements and costs associated with attending those colleges or programs. Help your child establish a career goal then plan backward for how to achieve that goal. Share what your hopes and dreams were when you were in high school and suggest family members and friends that they can talk to for insight and guidance. They should be asking questions about career opportunities but may not know the right questions to ask. Our guidance counselors can help. No matter what they dream of doing after graduation, planning for the next step is a wise choice. Post high school education contributes to a better quality of life. But whether or not they go on to a college, university, career or technical school, the information and skills they learn in high school will always be important in the working world. Everyone, in every kind of job, needs to be able to write and speak clearly, listen carefully, understand what is written and spoken, and use math effectively.