



PAW PRINTS

ORMOND BEACH MIDDLE SCHOOL

VOLUME 7 • ISSUE 3 • OCTOBER 2022

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SCHOOL INFORMATION:

Heather Iannarelli

Principal

Melissa Ciulla

Assistant Principal 8th Grade

Dr. Lloyd Haynes

Assistant Principal 6th and 7th Grade

Susan Kelleher

Assistant Principal Student Services

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

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello, Panther Families.

What an amazing start to the school year! Our panthers are thriving and getting into the groove so well. It is so nice to see their smiling faces each morning as they come in ready and prepared to learn. We have some great new initiatives in place for the school year as part of the middle school redesign and we are already noticing a positive change. Open House was fabulous, and we truly appreciate everyone's patience with the new security procedures. I hope everyone enjoyed meeting their students' teachers and checking out their classrooms.

As part of the middle school redesign, Volusia County middle schools have gone to a teaming approach. Every child is part of a team. The students on the team share the same core subject area teachers except for math in 7th and 8th grades. Some students may have to go off their team for math instruction. The purpose of moving to the teaming concept is to create a better support system for our students, better communication with families, team spirit, and a positive learning environment. It is long overdue to bring the fun back to middle school!!!

Another great initiative in middle schools across the county is the implementation of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). PBIS is an approach used to promote school safety and good behavior. We teach students about behavior expectations and strategies. The focus of PBIS is prevention, not punishment. You will notice that most student IDs have a bar code on the bottom, we can scan the bar code and give students PBIS points on an app. Students can then use these points to purchase privileges (lunch with a friend outside, pizza with the principal, school store items, discounts on school events, etc). We will be teaching and reviewing specific behavior and safety expectations throughout the year. Ask your students if they have earned any PBIS points yet.

For students to be able to learn to their full potential, we have to provide a safe and secure school campus. Students participated in expectation assemblies at

continued on page 2



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@OBMS Media

Mission Statement:

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



"Paw Prints"

Ormond Beach Middle School
151 Domicilio Avenue
Ormond Beach, FL 32174
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LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

continued from the cover...

the beginning of the year to learn about the Student Code of Conduct. During this time students learned about what is expected of them to keep a safe and orderly learning environment, but they also learned about the consequences when they make choices that cause the learning environment to no longer be safe or orderly. PLEASE take the time to review the Student Code of Conduct if you haven't already. It can be found on the Volusia County Schools website at www.vsc.edu.org.

I can't express enough how grateful I am to be a part of the Panther Family. I hope to have the opportunity to get to know each and every family within our Panther Family. Thank you for trusting our staff to provide your students with a meaningful and valuable education. It is important for our school family to work together with your families to support our students and ensure that they have a safe and secure learning environment each day. I am looking forward to a great year with your children!

With Respect
and Gratitude,

Heather Iannarelli
Proud Principal



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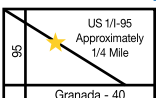
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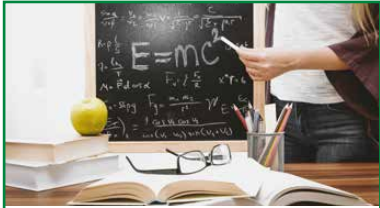
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School News...



From the Desk of Mrs. Demchak

MATH COUNTS has started to meet.

Competitive math club (not tutoring).

Open to all students.

Future meeting dates 9/28, 10/5, 10/26, and 11/30.
Snack provided.

School Breakfast News

Studies show that students who eat breakfast are more likely to:

- Reach higher levels of achievement in reading and math
- Score higher on standardized tests
- Have better concentration and memory
- Be more alert
- Maintain a healthy weight

Breakfast is served every day starting at 8:45 AM through 9:45 AM

And remember...

Breakfast and Lunch are FREE through June 2023

Practicing Proper Drills

Panthers practicing walking out of classrooms in a calm and timely manner is part of proper fire (evacuation) drill techniques.

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.



NATIONAL PTA REFLECTIONS
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All Submissions Due To
Media Specialist - Sandra Murray, OBMS Library By
Wednesday, November 16th

Applications available in the Media Center

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AVID News

From the Desk of Mrs. Porter - AVID Chair

In AVID, we kicked off the year focusing on organization. We have been organizing our binders and utilizing our planners, so we are more successful and confident. Guest Speakers have shared tips and career experience on being an entrepreneur. We wrote down some great advice from watching an interview with Jordan Travis about teamwork, professionalism and encouraging our teammates. Next week, our theme is thinking globally. We have 2 AVID students presenting about their European trip and then we will create a world map using candy for symbols. Students will investigate studying abroad on college websites. We are preparing for our Teamwork Advantage Fieldtrip in November. Students will use their Cornell Notes, Fishbowl discussions and persuasive writing skills to write a parent letter addressing positive benefits and safety on this field trip. Some students are following through on their business plans by raising their own money for this fieldtrip selling goods or providing services. Please support them with encouraging words or financial support if they approach you. We look forward to an exciting year!

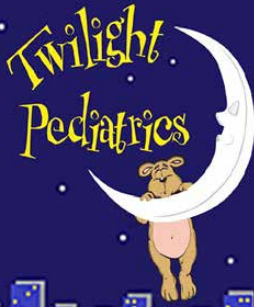


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AVID AT A GLANCE

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!

AVID for Middle
 Moving future leaders toward college success and beyond

AVID's teaching strategies and curriculum build positive teacher-student relationships to ensure student success schoolwide. AVID Elective students:

- Enroll in advanced courses (AP®)
- Receive academic instruction and tutorial support
- Strengthen their writing skills
- Improve study and organization skills
- Gain "college knowledge"
- Visit colleges and explore careers

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

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| 98% graduate from high school | 93% complete four-year college entrance requirements | 79% are accepted into four-year colleges | 88% persist into their second year of college |
|---|--|--|---|

Doesn't your student deserve the AVID experience?
 For more information, contact your guidance counselor and ask about AVID at OBMS.

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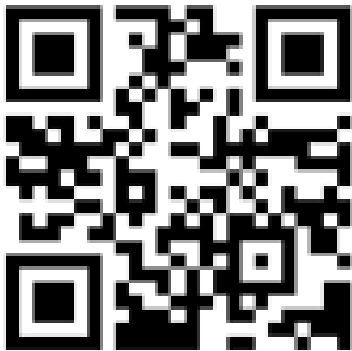
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Media Center News

Ormond Beach Middle School has a new website!
<https://ormondbeachms.vcsedu.org/>

- Have you purchased the district laptop insurance? Go to our website to find directions for how to register for this important insurance to protect your device for this year! The deadline is October 7th!
- The Florida Department of Education has designated our media center as a Florida Power-Library!
- The media center is open to students from 8:55 AM to 4:20 PM daily for book check out, research and technology use. Students are encouraged to check out two books for a three-week period. Last year we circulated over 10, 000 books to our students! "Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader"
- Stop by the media center to select one of our Sunshine State Novels to read. All 15 titles are available for checkout! https://www.floridamediaed.org/uploads/6/1/4/2/61420659/2022-23_grades_6-8_ssyra_annotated_list__1_.pdf
- Our first quarter Top 100 Readers Celebration will be October 19th!

Students will have until October 14th to earn their Reading Counts points for the event. Invitations will be delivered on October 18th.

- 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, check their grades, and work on projects before school. See Ms. Murray for more information.
- Follow our Panther happenings on Facebook @OrmondBeachMiddleSchool, Instagram @ormondbeachmiddlepanthers, and Twitter @OBMSMedia!

What's NEW with National Junior Honor Society

- All current 7th and 8th grade National Junior Honor Society members are expected to continue working on their service commitment of a minimum of 10 volunteer hours before April of 2023. Volunteer forms are available in the media center.
- Our first meeting will be held on October 7th. We will be voting for this year's Student Leadership Council!
- Members can earn one volunteer hour by joining our school's PTSA.
- Students are selected for membership based on their academic achievement of earning a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.7 for the first three quarters of the 2022-2023 year and having exemplary behavior. New members will be receiving invitations to be inducted in April of 2023.
- This year's sponsors are Ms. Wagers and Ms. Murray.

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Let's Talk! is an always-on communication channel. Let's Talk can be found on the VCS website at <https://www.vcsedu.org/about/contact-us> Volusia County Schools strives to provide excellent service to our entire community—students, parents, employees, and anyone else who resides in Volusia County or otherwise interacts with the district. We believe that by establishing and maintaining excellent relationships with our community, we can further our vision: to create life-long learners prepared for an ever-changing global society. We welcome your feedback at any time!



A few spots are left!



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Vicki Stanley

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