

OYSTER RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Jay Richard ♦ Principal

Bill Sullivan ♦ Assistant Principal

Brittany Prendergast ♦ Special Education Coordinator

9/25/22

Dear ORMS Parents and Guardians,

Thank you if you were able to attend open house last week. I recognize fall is a busy time of year for families with after school activities. Double thanks to those of you who needed to come out both nights. My goal in splitting the nights by grade levels was to improve the parking situation for you and have the building less congested. This also gives more opportunity to connect with all your child's teachers. I hope you enjoyed the exercise our bobcats receive walking to class on the stairways. Exercise is great for adolescents (principals too). If you were unable to attend, grade level teachers will be emailing their presentations. I will also have them posted this week on our website. Below are some important notes and reminders. As always, reach out with any questions or concerns.

Jay Richard

ORMS Principal

Playground Fun and Safety

Our students continue to enjoy using the new playground equipment and it is always supervised by an adult during recess. This week Assistant Principal Bill Sullivan and I will be reviewing safety expectations with our students. We have one specific piece of equipment that students have been using with too much enthusiasm. The piece is like the "old school" merry go round that used to be on playgrounds everywhere. To be specific, some students have been making the equipment go faster than it was intended, especially in grade 8. Our school nurses are already busy enough, and most playground injuries can be avoided with proper equipment use.

Volunteer Opportunity

We want parents to feel welcomed at ORMS. In the past, we have had parents volunteer during lunch times to assist students with composting, recycling and to help spread kindness. This is a great opportunity to see our students in action and visit our school during the day. Any amount of time is appreciated. If interested, please reach out to me jrichard@orcscsd.org or call the ORMS office. A free volunteer background check will be required to participate.

ORMS Basketball Boot Camp

Back by popular demand is our annual middle school Bobcat Basketball Bootcamp. This is a day of skills, drills, scrimmages, & fun offered to any ORMS student. The clinic is run by varsity players from the girl's and boy's programs (with adult supervision). This year's clinic will be held at the middle school gym with a pizza lunch to end the day!

Cost: \$50

SIGN UP: <https://forms.gle/JLaxA2x3GXWqyfQt6>

WHEN: 11/8/22. Drop-off begins at 8:30am, pizza at 1pm, & pick-up by 2pm.

PAYMENT: Cash or check made out to ORHS Basketball Boosters dropped off to the middle school office (in an envelope with player name). Financial strain will not prohibit any child from attending- if you need assistance please contact Andy Lathrop, Athletic Director and it will be taken care of.

QUESTIONS: about the clinic - please reach out to the basketball boosters:

ORHSBasketballboosters@gmail.com

Volleyball Opportunity

Interested in playing Volleyball? We will be offering volleyball skill and practice sessions on Fridays starting 9/16 and running until the end of October. All students in grades 5-8 are welcome to participate. The sessions will start at 3:00 pm and end at 4:30.

Harry Potter Club

Calling all Harry Potter fans! Harry Potter club will be starting Tuesday 9/27. We will meet in room 326. In the club we will meet twice a month to make Harry Potter crafts, watch the movies and play games. If you are interested please email Ms. Mathison to let her know you will be joining in at smathison@orcsd.org

PowerSchool and Schoology

PowerSchool is our student information system (SIS). This year all ORMS staff will be using PowerSchool to report student progress. PowerSchool is our “go to” for students and parents to view summative student feedback on assessments and projects. It is a teacher’s grade book view on how your child is currently performing academically. We also use PowerSchool for student attendance. As important, students are evaluated on our ORMS Habits of Learning in PowerSchool (Respectful, Responsible, Engaged and Have a Growth Mindset). [PowerSchool](#)

Schoology is our learning management system (LMS). Students and teachers use Schoology for assignment information and teacher expectations for learning outcomes. Students can submit assignments in Schoology for feedback. Student related announcements and information is also posted in our LMS. For example, field trip permission forms. Schoology is a student “go to first” source of information if they must miss school. Teachers keep Schoology updated a week in advance with big

picture learning goals. Specific daily information is routinely modified based on team, class (section) and learning needs. Parents have viewing access to Schoology. [Schoology](#)

If you need assistance with your PowerSchool or Schoology account, please contact the ORMS office during school hours (7:30-3:30PM).

ORMS Quick Tip

ORMS Counselors are completing student instruction on how to use our quick tip system. When a student makes a report, Bill Sullivan and I get the tip instantly 24/7 via email. [ORMS Quick Tip](#)

Staff Directory

During the school year, we encourage you to reach out to ORMS staff with questions. Here is our current [staff directory](#).

Student Lunch (No Charging)

ORMS students need cash or funds in their respective Titan accounts to purchase food. We do not allow students to charge food items that create a negative account balance. If necessary, students can borrow funds in the ORMS office for lunch. When this happens, we ask students to communicate lunch account information at home. If your child borrows funds, we appreciate repayment in the office. Breakfast is \$1.50 and lunch is \$3.25. Breakfast and lunch funds can be deposited [here at Titan](#). You can also apply for free or reduced lunch at [Titan](#). Please contact Food Service Director Doris Demers with any questions at ddemers@orcsd.org

Cell Phone Policy

Student cell phones and personal electric devices are not allowed during the school day and need to be placed in student lockers between 8:15AM-3:00PM. A phone is available in the ORMS front office for student use.

Sneaker Expectations

Sneakers must be worn when using the ORMS gym.

Have a question or need help?

Please always feel free to contact the ORMS office at (603)868-2820, our office hours are 7:30AM-3:30PM.

Rheanna Cote is the grade 5 school counselor rcote@orcsd.org

Kim Felch is the grade 6 school counselor kfelch@orcsd.org

Sarah Gahm is the grade 7 school counselor sgahm@orcsd.org

Stephanie Kadden is the grade 8 school counselor skadden@orcsd.org

Principal Jay Richard jrichard@orcsd.org

Assistant Principal Bill Sullivan bsullivan@orcsd.org

School Nurses Cheryl Thibodeau cwoods@orcsd.org and Mike Hope mhope@orcsd.org

ORMS Special Education Coordinator Brittany Prendergast bprendergast@orcsd.org