

OYSTER RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Jay Richard ♦ Principal

Bill Sullivan ♦ Assistant Principal

Brittany Prendergast ♦ Special Education Coordinator

9/18/22

Dear ORMS Parents and Guardians,

2022-2023 will be a school year of many firsts in the new ORMS. Last week we hosted our first athletic event, the volleyball team had a match with Strafford. I was impressed with the enthusiasm and the competitiveness of our players. It was notable how supportive they were of each other on the court, exhibiting the same type of behaviors we expect during school. Bobcat pride all around! This week we will host our fall open houses on Tuesday and Thursday by grade levels. I suggest a recommended teacher visit list below with details. More good news, we will receive delivery of our field soon. This will add a new location for recess and PE. Thank you in advance for visiting us this week. Below are some important notes and reminders. As always, reach out with any questions or concerns.

Jay Richard

ORMS Principal

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 Open House Dates

Recommended teacher visit list for open house: LA, Science, Social Studies, Math, Unified Arts, World Language, Music, Advisory and Bobcat/Intervention Specialist. This list demonstrates your child has a busy school day.

Tuesday September 20th Grades 5&8

Grade 5 5:30-7:00PM (large group meeting in recital hall (5:30-6:00)

Grade 8 6:15-7:45PM (large group meeting in recital hall 6:15-6:45)

Thursday September 22nd Grades 6&7

Grade 6 5:30-7:00PM (large group meeting in recital hall (5:30-6:00)

Grade 7 6:15-7:45PM (large group meeting in recital hall 6:15-6:45)

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](#)

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.

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 are no longer allowing students to charge food items which creates 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@orcscd.org

Laptop Distribution and Care Program (Highly Recommended)

Distribution of laptops, chargers, and computers have been completed. Students are responsible for the repair and replacement cost of these items. The district provides an optional program known as [ORCSD Care](#). This program covers school issued laptops, chargers, and cases against loss, theft, or accidental damage from day of distribution through the last day of school.

Families may join ORCSD Care for \$20 per student. We highly encourage you to join this program, middle school students have accidents.

A sign-up form for ORCSD was part of the registration packet. Many families indicated that they wanted to be part of the ORCSD care program. Please be aware that the program does not go into effect until the \$20 fee is paid. If you have not yet paid this fee, you may do so through [TITAN](#) or by sending a check to the ORMS office. Please make checks out to ORCSD and write your child's name and ORCSD care in the memo line.

Families may choose to join later in the school year upon inspection of the device by building IT personnel. Coverage does not begin until you agree to the program and payment is received. (Please note that students who qualify for Free/Reduced lunch will have a \$0 fee for enrollment).

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@orcscd.org

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

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

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

Principal Jay Richard jrichard@orcscd.org

Assistant Principal Bill Sullivan bsullivan@orcscd.org

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

ORMS Special Education Coordinator Brittany Prendergast bprendergast@orcscd.org