

**OLMSTED FALLS
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Where Everybody Belongs



5th Grade
Parent Orientation
May 7, 2017

**OLMSTED FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL
FIFTH GRADE PARENT MEETING
MAY 7, 2014**

7:00-7:30 PM Opening Remarks by Mr. Kurz & Mrs. Kotecki

1. Athletic Program Overview
2. Building Map
3. 6th Grade Teaching Teams
4. Typical Schedule
5. PowerSchool
6. Constant Contact: Emails, Text Messages, & Phone Calls
7. Twitter @ofmsbulldogs
8. Physical Education Uniform
9. School Supplies
10. Discipline
11. Dress Code
12. Attendance

7:30-7:45 PM "Helping Your Child Make A Successful Transition to the Middle School" by Mrs. Palmer

1. Parent Information Night: Wednesday, August 13, 2014
(Parents Only)
 - a. 7:00-8:00 PM
 - b. Parents report to Cafetorium
 - c. Students do not attend
2. WEB Student Orientation Day: Monday, August 18, 2014 (Students Only)
 - a. OFMS Gymnasium
 - b. 8:00 AM – 12:30 PM
 - c. Students Only
3. 6th Grade Open Campus: Monday, August 18, 2014
(Parents & Students)
 - a. Open Campus from 12:30-3:00 PM
 - b. Students will be able to load their lockers
 - c. Students will be able to follow their schedule to find all of their classes

7:45-8:30 PM Tour of Building by WEB Leaders

8:30 PM Program Concludes



*Olmsted Falls Middle School
Vision, Mission & Beliefs/Values*



Vision

It is the Vision of all staff that by the end of 8th grade all of our students will display characteristics of Bulldog P.R.I.D.E. by being:

Persistent, positive, powerful
Respectful, responsible, resourceful
Innovative, intelligent, independent
Dedicated, diligent, diverse
Empathetic, enthusiastic, extraordinary

Mission

The mission of Olmsted Falls Middle School is to prepare students for the future by instilling a desire to learn and by providing the skills needed to function as contributing members of society.

Beliefs & Values

- We believe all students can learn with support from teachers and parents.
- We believe in fostering positive relationships, communicating, and collaborating.
- We believe in accepting and appreciating diversity.
- We believe in providing a safe, secure, consistent environment.
- We believe in developing life long learners.
- We believe in educating the whole child intellectually, physically, morally, and socially.
- We believe in teaching decision-making skills and facilitating student accountability.
- We believe in instilling a sense of pride in self and community.

Create a chain reaction of kindness!

I. Mission of Rachel's Challenge

A. To reach every student in America with the message that students have the power to make **permanent** and **positive cultural change** in their school and communities by accepting the challenge of Rachel Scott to start a chain reaction of kindness and compassion.

II. Goal of Friends of Rachel (FOR) Club

A. The Friends of Rachel Club provides the opportunity to partner with Rachel's Challenge to continue the chain reaction of kindness and compassion in our school, community, and the world.

B. The purpose of the Friends of Rachel Club is to create a network of schools and communities that can band together to make a positive impact on the world by sharing ideas and mobilizing efforts when needs arise.

III. Chain Reaction Teams

A. *New Student Program*

1. The new student program is a way to welcome new students into the school. In this program students make new students feel more comfortable in a new environment. They ask the students to sit with them at lunch, and look at their schedule to see if they have any classes together. Overall, this program makes new students feel welcome at OFMS.

B. *Chain Reaction Project*

1. Chain links of kindness one way to start a "chain reaction" in our community. To do this program, the members of F.O.R. would cut strips of paper and put them in each of the classrooms in OFMS. Each time there is an act of kindness, that person makes a chain link. When you add the chain links together, overtime we hope it will reach from Olmsted Falls Middle School, to the High School!

C. *A-OK Program & School Climate*

1. This program is designed to make our school a kind environment for everyone. This program consists of announcements being read over the loud speaker to encourage students to be kind to one another. Also, there will be posters around the school with messages and acts of kindness. This program will teach students to be kind to one another.

OLMSTED FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Student Activities

| <u>Activities offered to grades 6-8:</u> | <u>Activities offered to grades 7-8 only:</u> | <u>Activities offered to grade 8 only:</u> |
|---|---|--|
| ▪ Homework Lab | ▪ Boys' Basketball | ▪ Girls' Fast Pitch |
| ▪ Chess Club | ▪ Girls' Basketball | ▪ Book Club |
| ▪ Drama Club | ▪ Cheerleading | ▪ Broadcasting Company |
| ▪ Paw Print Newspaper | ▪ Cross Country | ▪ WEB Leaders |
| ▪ Photo Club | ▪ Football | |
| ▪ Geography Bee | ▪ Track | |
| ▪ Intramurals | ▪ Volleyball | |
| ▪ Percussion Ensemble | ▪ Wrestling | |
| ▪ Builders Club | ▪ Power of the Pen | |
| ▪ Peer Mediation | ▪ Spelling Bee | |
| ▪ Student Council | ▪ Jazz Band | |
| ▪ Ski Club | ▪ Golden Harmonies | |
| ▪ Friends of Rachel Club | ▪ Solo and Ensemble Contest | |
| ▪ Academic Team | | |
| ▪ Math Problem Solving Camp | | |
| ▪ *Science Olympiad (6 th Grade Only) | | |
| ▪ Fitness Club | | |
| ▪ Helping Hands | | |

Interscholastic Athletics: 7th & 8th Grade Only

(Physical Required)

| <u>Fall</u> | | <u>Winter</u> | | <u>Spring</u> | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| <u>Sport</u> | <u>Season Start</u> | <u>Sport</u> | <u>Season Start</u> | <u>Sport</u> | <u>Season Start</u> |
| Cross Country | August | *Girls' Basketball | October | *Girls' Fast Pitch (8 th Grade Only) | March |
| *Volleyball | August | Wrestling | November | Track | March |
| Football | August | *Boys' Basketball | December | | |
| *Cheerleading: Football | April | *Cheerleading: Boys' Basketball | April | | |

* Indicates a tryout sport

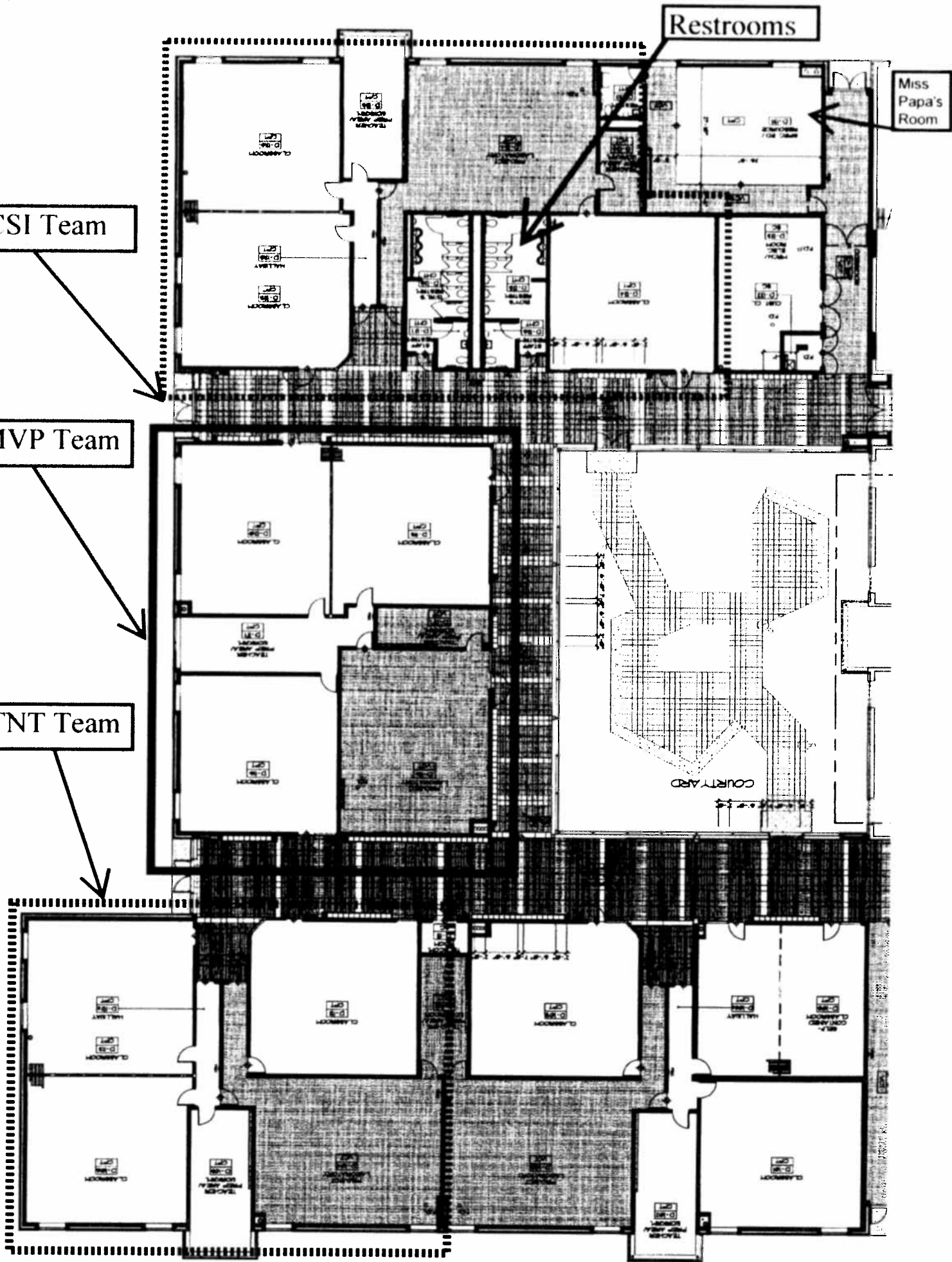
Restrooms

Miss Papa's Room

CSI Team

MVP Team

TNT Team



*Olmsted Falls Middle School
Where Everybody Belongs
6TH Grade Teaching Teams
2014-2015*

| TNT Team | | | 6th Grade Team | | | CSI Team | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|-----------------|--|--|
| Teacher | Subject(s) | Teacher | Subject(s) | Teacher | Subject(s) | | | |
| <i>Mrs. Bennett</i> | <i>Science & Social Studies</i> | <i>Mrs. Gillespie</i> | <i>Mathematics, & Integrated Language Arts</i> | <i>Mrs. Brogan</i> | <i>Science & Integrated Language Arts</i> | | | |
| <i>Mrs. Urban</i> | <i>Mathematics & Social Studies</i> | <i>Mrs. Dye</i> | <i>Mathematics, & Integrated Language Arts</i> | <i>Mrs. Buck</i> | <i>Mathematics & Integrated Language Arts</i> | | | |
| <i>Mrs. Lehmann</i> | <i>Social Studies & Integrated Language Arts</i> | <i>Mrs. LaMarca</i> | <i>Social Studies & Integrated Language Arts</i> | <i>Mrs. Fulton</i> | <i>Social Studies & Integrated Language Arts</i> | | | |
| <i>Miss Rupp</i> | <i>Science & Integrated Language Arts</i> | <i>Mr. Burkhard</i> | <i>Science & Social Studies</i> | <i>Mrs. Kondzer - Tutoring</i> | <i>Intervention Specialist</i> | | | |
| <i>Mrs. Miskimins</i> | <i>Gifted – Res. Room</i> | <i>Mrs. Ware – Resource Room</i> | <i>Intervention Specialist</i> | | | | | |
| | | <i>Mrs. Hawk– Resource Room</i> | <i>Intervention Specialist</i> | | | | | |
| <i>Miss Papa – Intervention Specialist</i> | | | | | | | | |

Olmsted Falls Middle School
Where Everybody Belongs
5th Grade WEB Visits
May 12-16, 2014

| <i>5th/6th Grade Transition</i> | |
|---|--|
| <i>A Day In The Life of A 6th Grader</i> | |
| 7:50 AM | Breakfast program begins in Cafetorium |
| 8:20 AM | Bell rings and students enter the building |
| 8:25 AM | Warning bell for homeroom |
| 8:30 AM | Homeroom begins |
| 8:36AM | Homeroom ends |
| Time Frame | |
| 8:40-9:24 AM | 1 st Period |
| 9:28-10:12 AM | 2 nd Period |
| 10:16-11:00 AM | 3 rd Period |
| 11:04-11:48 AM | 4 th Period |
| 11:52-12:36 PM | 5 th Period |
| 12:36-1:06 PM | Lunch |
| 1:10-1:54 PM | 6 th Period |
| 1:58-2:42 PM | 7 th Period |
| 2:46-3:30 PM | 8 th Period |
| 3:30 PM | Announcements & Dismissal |

Student Schedule

STAR (A Day) and PE (B Day)

Academic

Academic

Band and/or Choir

Art, Health, Tech Ed. Life Skills, Foreign Language (36-day cycle)

Lunch

Academic

Academic

Academic

***Olmsted Falls Middle School
Wheel, Music Education, S.T.A.R., & Physical Education
2014-2015***

Grade Wheel Classes

6th, 7th & 8th Grades

All classes are for 36 consecutive school days

Art

Health

Life Skills

Foreign Language

Technology Education

Music Education

6th, 7th & 8th Grades

Band: Every Day – All Year (6th, 7th & 8th Grades)

Choir: Every Day – All Year (6th, 7th & 8th Grades)

Band & Choir: Every Other Day – All Year (6th & 7th Grades)

Band & Choir: Every Day – All Year (8th Grade Only)

Students Taking Advantage of Resources (S.T.A.R.)

Achievement Tutoring

Academic Assistance

Bully Prevention Activities

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E) – 6th grade only

Physical Education

6th, 7th & 8th Grades

Every Other Day – All Year

Alternates with S.T.A.R.



5TH GRADE PARENT ORIENTATION



- While you will not be able to make a specific team request, you may send a note or an email to Mr. Kurz (mkurz@ofcs.net) describing your child in terms of learning style preferences and personality traits so that we may be able to match him/her with the best possible fit in terms of our 6th grade teaching teams. **Please send your note or email to Mr. Kurz by Friday, May 9, or we will not be able to consider your request.** Please understand our need to finalize our class lists in a timely manner.
- Your child took two math placement tests in March, which will be used in conjunction with his/her math grade and teacher recommendation to determine if your child will be placed in 6th grade math or advanced math. You will be notified by June 13 via US Mail of your child's team placement, team supply list, and math course placement for the 2014-2015 school year.
- Clothing and accessories prohibited under OFMS Dress Code policy include:
 - Tee shirts or other clothing items that include drug, alcohol, or tobacco messages
 - Excessively low cut shirts
 - Tee shirts or other clothing items that endorse illegal, racist, sexist, violent, bigoted, or gang-related activity
 - Tee shirts or other clothing that displays sexually suggestive comments or causes a disruption to the educational process
 - Tank Tops (All shirts must have sleeves, which extend over the shoulder)
 - Cut offs and lycra/spandex "bike" shorts
 - Apparel that is backless or exposes the midriff
 - Hats/Headwear/Bandannas
 - Pajama Tops/Bottoms
 - Excessively short skirts and shorts
 - Shorts, skirts, dresses, etc., with a slit above the mid-thigh
 - Stressed, frayed, torn, tattered, or unhemmed clothing
 - Tape on clothing
 - Fishnet tights
 - Face paint
 - Artificially colored hair
 - Belt, waist, wallet, wrist, or neck chains
 - Shoes with wheels ("heeries")
 - Dark glasses (unless prescribed by a doctor)
 - Written graffiti on clothing
 - Facial/body piercing
 - Anything else considered inappropriate for school.
 - Shorts, if appropriate, may be worn to school.
 - Shorts, pants, or any other type of clothing should not fall below the waistline.
 - Yoga pants and leggings may be worn as long as the student is wearing a shirt that is at least mid-thigh length.
 - Clothing should not be excessively large or small.
 - Clothing should not expose undergarments.
 - Clothing or accessories, which may be dangerous to other students, or to school property, are not permitted.
- Mr. Kurz and Mrs. Kotecki will make the final decision on whether or not an article of clothing is appropriate.
- Students will be assigned to a lunch table after the first week of school. During the first week of school, students may work out table arrangements with their friends. Mrs. Kotecki and our lunch staff will assist the students with this process. If problems arise during the school year, students must approach Mrs. Kotecki to work out a possible table change. We have found this format of assigned tables reduces conflicts between students at lunch in terms of isolation and exclusion. In addition, it enables our lunch staff to hold the students more accountable for their table and area clean up and for their behavior in general.
- We no longer go to Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center (CVEEC) as an overnight experience in 7th grade. We felt that the combined cost of the CVEEC trip and the Washington DC trip in 8th grade was a financial burden for families.



Guidance Program & Services

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year. We would like to introduce ourselves as your child's school counselors. Our names are Mrs. Kathy Suvak and Mrs. Christine Palmer. We are licensed individuals available to you, your child and your child's teacher throughout the school year. This year will bring many social and academic changes in your child's life. Most of these changes will be met positively and will be wonderful learning experiences. However, occasionally there may be times when a child needs guidance in dealing with these changes. When this happens, we are here to help.

As school counselors, we can:

- * Assist parents in understanding their child
- * Help bridge the gap between school and home
- * Be a resource for students, parents, and teachers
- * Consult with parents, teachers, and local agencies
- * Provide individual, small and large group counseling services.



The beginning of the school year is a great time to set the pace for success. Here are a few suggestions that may be helpful to your child.

USE SCHEDULES

- Have your child get enough sleep to wake up rested
- Have a regular wake up time and an organized preschool morning; lay out clothes, set books and school supplies in one place to avoid rushing
- Post a study and activity schedule; devote some time to each subject

HOMEWORK

- Have your child do homework each night at a specific place and time
- Write long term assignments on monthly calendars
- Look over homework after your child is finished and be accessible for questions

SCHOOL CONTACT

- Keep close contact with your child's teacher; you do not have to wait for a conference to talk to school personnel (teacher, counselor, and nurse)

If concerns or questions arise throughout the year, please do not hesitate to call. We are here to assist both you and your child.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Suvak
7th Grade Counselor
8th Grade Gold Team Counselor
427-6221

Christine Palmer
6th Grade Counselor
8th Grade Blue Team Counselor
427-6220

The staff and students of
Olmsted Falls Middle School
invite you to

Olmsted Falls Middle School
6th Grade Parent Information Night

This event is for parents only

7:00 -8:00 PM

August 13, 2014

OFMS Cafetorium



WEB Sixth Grade Orientation

8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

August 18, 2014

OFMS Gymnasium

This event is for students only

At this orientation, eighth grade WEB Leaders will meet with you for some exciting activities to help you with the transition from OFIS to OFMS. **Make sure to be on time and to wear comfortable clothes and shoes!** Also, don't bring anything but yourself... travel light!



6th Grade Open Campus

12:30-3:00 PM

August 18, 2014

This event is for both parents and students

Students and their parents will be able to load their lockers and follow their schedule to locate all of their classrooms.

If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Palmer at 427-6220.

MARK E. KURZ
Principal

KRISTAM KOTECKI
Assistant Principal

KATHLEEN A. SUVAK
School Counselor

CHRISTINE PALMER
School Counselor

Olmsted Falls City School District

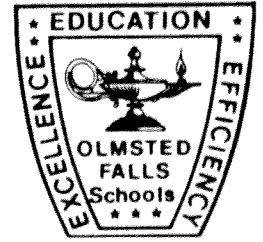
Olmsted Falls Middle School

27045 BAGLEY ROAD
OLMSTED FALLS, OHIO 44138-1898

(440) 427-6200
FAX (440) 427-6210

www.ofcs.net

May 2014



Dear Parents of 5th Grade Students:

We are very excited that your child will be attending Olmsted Falls Middle School. We look forward to meeting your child at our **WEB 6th Grade Orientation**, which will be held from **8:00 AM-12:30 PM on Monday, August 18, 2014**. Our school is participating in a transition initiative called *Where Everybody Belongs* (WEB), which is a program whose sole purpose is to help sixth graders feel more comfortable, as well as help them achieve success in their first year of middle school. While we will be doing classroom presentations this week, we are not going to be bringing the students over to the middle school until August.

The WEB sixth grade orientation and transition program is designed to both welcome and support sixth graders by assigning them an 8th grade WEB Leader as a mentor during their 6th grade year. This WEB Leader is a responsible 8th grade student who was hand-selected from a large pool of applicants and has met the qualifications of being a good role model and a positive leader at our school. Following is some information to let you know what you and your student can expect in advance of his or her first day of school:

- 1) Your child can expect to receive an invitation to our **WEB 6th Grade Orientation Day** in the mail. If he or she has not received the invitation by August 8, 2014, please call the main office at 440-427-6200 to let us know.
- 2) A day or two before the **WEB 6th Grade Orientation** your child will also receive a phone call from her or his WEB Leader personally inviting her or him to orientation day and giving the details of where to be and what time.
- 3) Your child should not bring backpacks, purses or other like items on August 18 as the day is quite active and they will be moving around a great deal.
- 4) Please make sure that your child wears comfortable clothing and shoes that do not restrict movement. Please do not wear baseball caps or any other hats.

The **WEB 6th Grade Orientation** is a student-only function; therefore, we want your child to attend on her/his own. Since this is an orientation program which will assist your child as she/ he transitions to the middle school, your child's attendance and participation is required. Students will receive their locker assignment and schedule at this orientation program.

Following the **WEB 6th Grade Orientation**, we will have the **6th Grade Open Campus** from 12:30-3:00. This event is for both parents and students. Students and their parents will be able to load their lockers and follow their schedule to locate all of their classes.

Our **6th Grade Parent Information Night**, which will be held on **Wednesday, August 13, 2014** from 7:00-8:00 PM, is for parents only. Parents will receive important information from their child's teachers.

Please feel free to call any of us if you have any questions or need additional information.

Olmsted Falls Middle School WEB Coordinators.

Mrs. Kotecki
Assistant Principal
440-427-6203

Mrs. Suvak
School Counselor
440-427-6221

Mrs. Palmer
School Counselor
440-427-6220

Mrs. Rahas
Health Teacher
440-427-6336

Mrs. Buck
6th Grade Teacher
440-427-6298

*Olmsted Falls Middle School
Where **Everybody Belongs**
5th to 6th Grade Transition
May 7, 2014*

Top Ten Questions Most Frequently Asked by Parents of 5th Grade Students

➤ The following information has been provided in an effort to answer some of the questions that you may have regarding your coming to Olmsted Falls Middle School for 6th grade.

1. What time does school start?

The school day will begin at 8:20 AM each day. Homeroom will begin at 8:30 AM.

2. What time does school end?

School is dismissed at 3:30 PM each day.

3. Where do we get off and on the bus?

The bus will drop students off and pick them up right in front of the building.

4. Where do parents drop students off or pick them up in the event they have to do so?

Parents may drop off or pick up their children outside of the building by the Wheel hallway.

5. Are students allowed to walk to school?

No.

6. What do students need to bring to school on the first day?

You will receive a sixth grade supply list in the mail by June 13. All the supplies that are needed for the first day will be listed on the supply list.

7. When do 6th graders eat lunch?

Sixth graders eat lunch from 12:36-1:06 PM.

Our cafeteria has a variety of selections to choose from and students may bring their lunch and purchase items separately, as well. There is usually 10-15 minutes of time left after students eat their lunch. You may either go outside to our playground area or play in the gym.

Olmsted Falls Middle School
*Where **E**verybody **B**elongs*
5th to 6th Grade Transition
May 7, 2014

8. Will I have my own locker?

Each of you will have your own locker which has a built in combination lock.

9. What do I do if I am not able to open my locker?

If you are not able to open your locker you need to come to the main office for help.

10. How long are my classes and how much time do I have in between classes?

Each class is 44 minutes long and you will have 4 minutes in between each of your classes.