



# OWL NEWS

June 7, 2018

## **Message from Administration**

As this year comes to a close, Mrs. Hanner and Mrs. Clifford want to take a minute to thank all of our families for a great year. It has been a joy to watch the students grow in so many ways. We are proud of all they have accomplished as people and students. We also want to thank Mr. John Houck and Ms. Susan Kreager for stepping in as Acting Assistant Principals, while Mrs. Clifford has been out on medical leave. As many of you may have seen on the FCPS Find Out First announcement, Mrs. Clifford has been transferred to New Midway/Woodsboro for the 2018-19 school-year. She will miss OES students and families very much.

## **Staff Updates**

Every year, we announce routine staffing changes in store for the next academic year. While we will miss everyone who is moving on, we wish them well as they begin their new adventures.

Mrs. O'Donnell and Mrs. Green will both be retiring. Congratulations and thank you for all you have done for FCPS students!

Mrs. Haupt, Mrs. Hause, Mrs. Bernard and Mrs. Venable will be opening our newest elementary school, Butterfly Ridge. Opening a new school is an amazing opportunity.

Mrs. Cassidy will be moving to Wolfsville Elementary as their Literacy Specialist.

Mr. McVay is going to try something new as he moves onto Monocacy Middle School to teach Social Studies.

Mrs. Shriner will be moving to Deer Crossing, where she will be able to be in one building as the full time PE Teacher.

Mrs. Schmidt is moving to Brunswick Elementary, which is closer to her home.

Mrs. Brandenburg is going to Spring Ridge Elementary to be their Math Specialist.

Mrs. Christy Alexander will be moving to North Frederick Elementary as an assistant in the Pre K.

## **Welcome to New Staff Members**

We would like to welcome the following staff members to OES:

Mallory Cowan (Full Time Art), Mark Wiles (Part Time PE), Heather Burgess (Part Time PE), Dana Bobi (Special Ed), Julie Melton (Special Ed), Gail Hostetter (K), Chris Holsey (3rd), John Gregorich (4th)

## **Familiar Faces in New Place**

Mrs. Gibbons (5th), Mrs. Uhlendorff (5th), Mrs. Stumpfig (3rd), Cara Sherman (1st), Susie Spadaro (5th)

## **Classroom Assignments**

In recent years, we have been sending home assignments for next year on report cards. Due to our increasing enrollment, assignments will not be given out until later in the summer. This gives us flexibility in continuing to make movements as needed and prevents us from having to announce a change of teacher, which can be upsetting to students. We hope to mail letters by late July or early August.

### **Looking for Summer Reading Ideas**

Central office staff has put together a great resource. It can be found at <https://www.fcps.org>. It is called Summer Reading Resources and is located as one of the eight topics under Timely Topics under the main picture. There are links for everyone from Birth through 12<sup>th</sup> grade in this list of resources.

### **Ten Marks is a Great Summer Math Resource**

We are encouraging students who are leaving Grades 1st-5th to use their TenMarks accounts over the summer. Students will take an assessment towards the end of the year, and then they will be given assignments based on those assessment results. Students will be able to use TenMarks until July 31st. Look for more information from your child's teacher at the end of the school year.

### **Yearbooks**

The 2017-2018 Oakdale ES yearbooks will go home in Thursday folders this week to students who pre-ordered yearbooks by purchasing them online through Lifetouch. We have a limited number of yearbooks available for students who did not pre-order a yearbook. Fifth graders who did not purchase yearbooks online will be able to purchase them in Mrs. Venable's room Friday morning, June 8th between 8:45 and 9:15. The yearbooks will be sold for \$28.00, cash or check made out to OES. The remainder of the yearbooks will be available at the school store on Monday, June 11th and will be sold on a first come, first serve basis. Please do not call or email the school to reserve a yearbook. Thank you!

### **Counselor's Corner**

It's actually June! As the year winds down I want to thank everyone – staff, families, and the Oakdale community – for once again making this a memorable and special year here at OES. As we wrap up 4th term and the 2017-2018 school year, here are some things that have been going on in the OES Counseling world...

- I visited PreK and Kindergarten classrooms with “Harold P. Wigglebottom” and shared the story of how Harold learned to listen. The kids were great, showed off some superior listening skills, and agreed to finish the year strong and carry those listening skills into next year!
- First graders visited the world of Molly Lou Melon with me and learned how important it is to, as Molly's grandmother says, “Believe in ourselves”! We created paper hearts that gave students a chance to share ways they believe in themselves, as well as identify their “Allies” who could help them achieve their big dreams.
- Based on feedback from quite a few people in our community (parents, teachers, even other counselors) I developed a lesson which I shared with 2nd and 3rd graders on “Perseverance”. What does it mean to fail – and to succeed? In the words of a former all-star teacher my own children were blessed to have, we need to “be problem-solvers” and “stay with the struggle!” We talked about some of the most powerful examples of people who just never gave up: Dr. Seuss, Colonel Sanders, Thomas Edison, Oprah Winfrey, Albert Einstein, Wilma Rudolph, Walt Disney – the list goes on and on. To wrap up, all students wrote about what their dreams are, strategies they can use to succeed, and who in their lives will support them in working toward their dreams. Hopefully your students brought those papers home to share with you!
- In 4th grade we discussed the topic of Cliques – the good and the possible bad sides. What IS a clique? Is it possible to be in more than one clique? What can we do if our clique doesn't support us if we want to try something new? And the biggest downside: what can we do if other members of our clique purposefully exclude other kids? Lots of great discussion, and again, hopefully you have had or will have the chance to talk about this in your own family.
- I shared one of my favorite – but bittersweet – lessons with 5th graders: Movin' on Up to middle school! We discussed our concerns about meeting new classmates and teachers, navigating new schools and hoping not to be late to class, getting our locks open and avoiding the dreaded “butterfly”, changing for gym class (but no showers! J), and making it to the bus at the end of the day – all part of the transition to middle school and the next exciting chapter in our kids' lives – priceless.

Finally – with the end of the year upon us and planning already beginning for next year, I humbly ask that you take a few moments to complete the OES Counseling Program Needs Assessments for Parents and Guardians (truly should only take 5-10 minutes TOPS) Click on the link below to fill out the Google survey.

<https://goo.gl/forms/c07pYutlDxvvU16A2>

Your honest feedback truly is priceless and will serve to make our OES Guidance Program even stronger in the future. Have a fantastic summer everyone!!!

When we point to obstacles, we inhibit progress. When we offer solutions, we advance it.

**Spirit Days Reminder**

- June 1- Beach Day (no bathing suits please)

**Dates to Remember:**

Date	Event
Thursday, June 7	Gr. 5 Field Trip 9:15-4 GR. 3 Field Trip 9:15-3:15
Friday, June 8	5th Grade Kickball Game 2-3
Monday, June 11	Move Up Day- 9:25-9:55 Rain date for Kickball 2-3
Tuesday, June 12	Volunteer Reception/Program- 9:30
Wednesday, June 13	
Thursday, June 14	
Friday, June 15	2 Hour Early Dismissal 4th Grade eats at 5th grade time 9:30 Flag Raising Ceremony 10:00 5th Grade Promotion Ceremony (siblings are to remain in their classes) 1:20 Clap Out

Character + Community + Commitment = Successful Learners

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