

OWL WEEKLY EMAIL
SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

In an effort to increase communication with our students and families, we send a weekly email on Sunday evenings or Monday mornings highlighting upcoming school events. This information will also be shared with students in Crew on Mondays. Events are listed in chronological order.

School Forms: If you have not completed the school online forms, please do so ASAP. Students will not be able to participate in any fieldwork or retreats if their forms are not completed. Go to our website: open.spps.org

The Saint Paul Public Library is having an Open House for their Homework Centers and Createch sites this Wednesday, September 7 from 4-6 p.m. Students can attend the Open House at any of the centers or sites: "Explore these spaces, meet your librarians, and learn how your library can help you succeed." There will be snacks and free school supplies! A flyer is attached to this email.

After School Activities Fair – Monday, September 12: We will be holding an activities fair for students during the school day on Monday morning (9/12/16) so students can learn about the many after school activities offered at OWL/Humboldt. Registration for activities will be held over the next two weeks. A list of courses offered and registration forms will be sent home with students next Monday.

Our after school programming begins **Monday, October 10** and runs Monday – Thursday from 2 – 4 PM. A free snack is served to all students. ALL students receive free busing home at 4:05 PM. For more information about after school programming, contact Tim Leone-Getten @ timothy.leone-getten@spps.org

Middle School Athletics Begin Monday, September 12: This Friday at the community meeting, we will have forms for students interested in middle school athletics. Students in grades 6-8 joining Girls' Volleyball, Boys' and Girls' Soccer and Boys' and Girls' Flag Football should meet in the OWL cafeteria at the end of the day on Monday, Sept. 12th. Be sure to have forms and fees. OWL Staff will walk students over to meet their coaches the first day. Pick up is at 4:15 PM sharp from the OWL entryway.

Ultimate Frisbee Begins this Wednesday, September 7 from 4 – 6 PM @ Harriet Island: Fall Ultimate Frisbee practice will begin this week and will be held on Wednesdays until it is too cold. We are trying something new this fall. We have made practice later (4-6 PM) in the day so it is easier for our coaches to continue to work with us. While the later time might be a problem for some families, it might enable other students to come after a 2-4 PM activity. If a student needs to stay at school and do homework until it is time for practice, please connect with Tim. We hope to add Monday practices as well—look in next week's email for details.

There is no charge for fall Ultimate. It is a great chance for students, grades 6-12, considering joining the team for the formal spring season to come try it out alongside our veteran players and excellent coaches. Pick up your child at the Harriet Island EAST ENTRANCE (Turn east off Wabasha St. onto Water St., then left around the new apartment building, under the Wabasha Bridge. Follow the road to the parking lot at the end—right near the Showboat Theater) at 6 PM.

High school students can also play in the Saturday Fall Ultimate League, starting this week. Coach Liam will provide you with more information.

Fall Play Auditions this week: On December 14th, 15th and 16th, Open Theater will present the fall play. The play will be a devised work, created by the group during rehearsals. Please contact Theater Director, Rebekah Rentzal rebekah.rentzal@spps.org with any questions.

Auditions will be Tuesday Sept 13th, Wednesday Sept 14th, with callbacks on the 15th. 2:15-4:00pm in the Auditorium.

Audition workshop will be held Monday Sept 12th – if you've never auditioned before, or would like to brush up your skills, come join us 2:15-4:00pm in the Auditorium.

Play rehearsals begin Monday, September 19 from 2:15 – 4 PM.

Note: Starting **Monday, October 10**, there will be busing home for theater students in grades 6-12.

Also: The Spring Play will be the musical, Grease. Auditions will be held in mid-October.

Site Council Meeting—Tuesday, September 13 from 5:30 – 7:00 PM: The first meeting of the 2016-17 OWL Site Council will be held in the cafeteria. We will provide a recap of the start of school, an update on enrollment, staffing and budget. This meeting will serve as our annual Title 1 Meeting, we will review our SCIP (School Continuous Improvement Plan). We will also provide an overview of the year and join the various Site Council sub-committees. All are welcome to come learn more about our school community, as well as provide valuable feedback and guidance on the future direction of OWL.

PTO Meeting—Tuesday, September 13 from 7 – 8:30 PM.

The first OWL PTO meeting of the new school year will be Tuesday, September 13 at 7 pm, in the health classroom adjacent to the cafeteria. All parents, guardians, students and teachers are welcome! OWL PTO volunteers support the OWL learning community through fundraising events and strengthen the extended OWL community through relationship building events. We look forward to having you join us!

PTO Meeting Agenda - September 13, 7 pm

- Welcome and Introductions
- 2016-17 PTO meetings format and schedule
- PTO Mission: fundraising and community building
- Fill open Coordinator roles
- Facebook updates: vote to accept rules, change page status
- 2016-17 Budget: vote to make changes and accept
- New Business/Questions/Set Agenda for November
- Adjourn

Senior Family Meeting is Wednesday, September 14 @ 7 PM:

Come find out all about Senior year at OWL. We will tell you about the College March to the Mailbox, Senior Graduation Portfolio, College Application Process, Financial Aid, Scholarships, Completing/Logging Service Hours, Senior Project, Graduation Meeting and Graduation Ceremony. A must for all families of 12th graders!

iPad Handout is set for September 14 and 15: Students will be receiving their SPPS iPads. If you have not completed the required paperwork (form signed during Goal Setting Conferences), you must do so before your student can receive their iPad.

Family Service Opportunity on Saturday, September 17 from 9

AM-12 PM: Our School Social Worker, Michelle Romano is organizing a group from OWL to volunteer at the Salvation Army as part of the Toy Shop program, “prepping” for a larger event in December, putting toys in boxes, and arranging and sorting toys in stocking stuffer bags. The Salvation Army has a warehouse in Roseville with lots and lots of toys for babies to teens. We are like elves helping to sort and pack these toys to be shipped to various locations in the Twin Cities come Christmas for families in need.

Teens are most welcome to come with you to help out. This event isn't for children younger than 12 years old. If you sign up, please avoid canceling last minute. The Salvation Army would love our help, and if possible, we'd love to bring in at least 30 people. Please pass to family and friends too. Please contact Michelle Romano michelle.romano@spps.org if you would like to attend or if you need more information.

Meeting for all NEW Families—Thursday, September 22 at 6

PM: Right before the Open House, we are inviting all new families to meet in the OWL Auditorium for an overview of the year and answer any questions you may have.

Open House/Back to School Night—Thursday, September 22

at 7 PM: Come meet your child's teachers and hear about all the great things happening in our classes this year. Be sure to arrive promptly, as we will be running through your student's schedule starting at 7 PM.

Note: At the Open House, Outward Bound students will be selling pizza, beverages, and snacks starting at 5:30 PM to raise money for this spring's service adventure. Bring your appetites and a bit of cash!

Fall Retreats—Tuesday, September 27- Friday, September 30:

Coming up in three weeks, we will have a big week of learning, service and adventure. Note that the senior retreat starts on Monday morning and the juniors leave Monday after school, returning on Thursday afternoon. More information on trips to come.

"SAVE THE DATE! The OWL Fall Family Gathering will be Thursday, October 6, 5:30-8 pm, at the Harriet Island Pavilion.

Come together with the OWL community for food, fun and friendship in a beautiful location on the Mississippi River across from downtown Saint Paul. Look for more information in the October newsletter and future emails.

School Picture Day is Friday, October 7: Information on purchasing pictures from Lifetouch will be coming home soon. Whether you are buying pictures or not, all students will have their picture taken for Student ID and Yearbook purposes.

After School Programming Begins: Monday, October 10.

Site Council -- Tuesday, October 11 from 5:30 – 7 PM:

PTO Meeting—Tuesday, October 11 from 7 – 8:30 PM.

NO SCHOOL—Thursday, October 20 and Friday, October 21:
State Teacher Convention.

Upcoming College Events:

National College Fair: Students in grades 10-12 will attend this event with booths from hundreds of colleges at the Minneapolis Convention Center on Tuesday, October 4 during the school day. There are also evening hours for families that would like to attend.

OWL College Knowledge Night is Wednesday, November 2 @ 6 PM: Come find out more about the college application and admission process. More information to follow.

PTO Meeting Schedule for 2016-2017

Working Meetings

Sep 13 – Intro
Nov 15 – GiveMN prep/Grants
Jan 10 – Budget recap
Mar 14 – Grants
May 9 – Raffle prep/Election

Social Get Togethers

Oct – Fall Family Gathering
Dec – date and location TBD
Feb – date and location TBD
Apr – date and location TBD
Jun – Raffle-O-Rama, Humb. Café

Important Reminder about Attendance:

If your child is going to miss school, please call, email or write a note to explain the reason for the absence. If we do not hear from you, the absence is documented as unexcused. After 3 days of unexcused absence you will receive a letter from the school reminding you to please communicate with us so the absence(s) may be documented accurately. If your child continues to miss school, unexcused, he/she will be referred to the SAM (School Attendance Matters) Program for intervention.

The following reasons for absence qualify as an excused absence; illness, doctor, dental or therapy appointment (please be sure to obtain a note to give to the school), extreme family emergency or religious holiday not already recognized by our school district. When a student misses 3 or more class periods in one day, this is considered to be a full day of absence. Please call us if you have any questions/concerns. Thank you.

