



OLSON PANTHER NEWS

Friday, October 27, 2017

Dates to Remember:

Wednesday, November 1 – Last Day of the Quarter

Thursday & Friday, November 2 & 3 – **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

Sunday, November 5 – Daylight Savings Time – Clocks Back One Hour

Monday, November 6 – 2nd Quarter Begins

Tuesday, November 7 – Picture Retake Day

Tuesday, November 7 – 6th Grade Field Trip to Webber Park and Creekview Pond

Dr. Emerson, Principal -

Thank you to everyone who came out to parent/teacher conferences last week! We had 120 families attend, which was wonderful! In addition, we had 25 families attend our Title I Family night.

I am glad we are able to work as partners to educate all of your children to high standards. I look forward to seeing you again at our family night in November. Go Panthers!

Family Newsletter – This is our first Olson Panther News. Our communication each week will highlight a different grade, content area, or specialist. There is a lot of rigorous learning going on, which encourages our scholars to think critically, and creatively.

Winter Weather – This is a reminder that scholars who walk to school or are dropped off should not arrive at school before 8:30 a.m.

We open our doors at 8:30 a.m. so scholars can get breakfast before going to Advisory class.

IB Update - Olson has proudly entered our 2nd year of candidacy in the IB MYP. Students are discovering the ten Learner Profile traits and teachers are building new units of inquiry.

If you value this type of rigorous programming for students, please make your voice heard by completing the [Budget Values Survey](#) sent out by Superintendent Graff. If you have any questions about MYP at Olson, contact Ms. AvH at (612) 724-7555.

6th Grade Team – We have had a great start to the year getting to know our 6th graders and helping them become brilliant middle school scholars.

At the beginning of October, we had two artists from the MN Center for the Book Arts join our MN Studies class.

They led our scholars in a book binding workshop where they created their own books. Scholars were able to use their creativity to design their own book. They crafted their book from decorative paper and a needle and thread. Ask your scholar to see the book they created.

The 6th graders did a great job respecting, and listening to our guests. Way to go 6th graders!

6th Grade Science – Four neuroscientists from the U of MN visited our Science classes to teach about the brain. Our scholars learned about the different parts of the brain, how the brain communicates with the rest of the body, and they had the opportunity to touch a human brain!

6th Grade Field Trip – We have a field trip to the Webber Library and Creekview Pond on **Tuesday, November 7.**

Field trip slips went home so please sign it, and have it returned to school ASAP!

Mrs. Engel (Eggert), Health Teacher – This is my first year teaching Health at Olson Middle School. I am excited to be a part of the Olson community! I completed my undergraduate degree in Exercise Science at the U of WI – River Falls and added my teaching license through Bemidji State University. Working with middle school students is one of my favorite things! I teach two sections of 7th grade Health and two sections of 8th grade Health.

7th Grade Health Class – During the first quarter, we talked about fitness, nutrition, mental and emotional health, tobacco and alcohol, bullying, personal safety, and consumer health.

For the nutrition unit, scholars were able to research a food of their choice and record the food's nutritional profile. They took that information and created a poster showcasing the food. Nutrition facts and how the food helps prevent and treat disease were part of their study.

The 7th graders really enjoyed working on this project and took a lot of pride in their work! They were given the opportunity to showcase their work to their peers.

8th Grade Health Class – In first quarter, we discussed healthy relationships, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, and communicable and non-communicable diseases.

While studying the relationships unit, scholars took a communication inventory that tells them their communication style. They enjoyed taking this survey and claimed that the results were pretty accurate. We were able to discuss the results and talk about how knowing your communication style can help you build strong relationships.

The 8th graders completed many self-reflection activities to help them tie what they learned to their lives. It has been wonderful working with your scholars and I am

looking forward to meeting new scholars and families!

Mr. Gilmer, Assistant Principal - Olson Middle School maintains the Positive School-Wide Engagement (P.S.W.E.) program to support our climate and social-emotional learning. We will continue to highlight and celebrate positive behavior through our reward systems. P.S.W.E. also supplies scholars with skills to handle potentially negative situations and think about the best course of action.

Olson has adopted new expectations: We "R4" the Olson Way (Respecting Yourself, Respecting Others, Respecting Property and, Respecting Learning). When scholars exhibit a positive desired behavior, we will reward them with a Panther Pride Ticket.

This week we started our Hallway Challenge. Each Core One class is trying to reduce tardies by 30%. In their social studies class, scholars have reviewed our behavior expectations and engaged in activities around hallway expectations. Please encourage your scholar(s) to be on time for learning and to walk & talk.

Thank you for your continued support of Olson and allowing us to educate your scholar(s).