



Welcome to Coffee with the Principal & Admin Team October 2023

Do what is
RIGHT,
Not what is
EASY.



hi

Parent Questions/Comments - Page 1

- I am curious how students can easily and quietly get help now that they don't have Patriot period. Bummed to see outside time gone too. We are doing morning pullouts and we have 50-60 students moving during this time instead of 1000. This creates a safer environment for students and maximizes the amount of time students can work on their choice board. Many students have told me they like this better so they do not need to go to different rooms each morning.
- How is cell phone restriction going? seems like it was inconsistently enforced last year. Going well. We are still asking for parents/relatives to not text students during the day. We have seen that most of the phones in violation were because a parent was texting the student.
- Can you please discuss the plans for a new Building for STEM and merger with Old Mill Middle School North I recommend that you watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5R4PXETGNdY&t=156s> OMMS will be a STEM middle school.
- Just curious when clubs will start up. They started on Tuesday.

Parent Questions/Comments - Page 2

- Also, do you know (looking ahead), if the current STEM 7th graders (who will be 8th graders at the NEW Old Mill South next year), will get the opportunity to tour the new school sometime this school year? [We will have open houses this summer - Dates TBD for all students coming to OMMS to take tours. It will not be just for STEM students.](#)
- A gentle reminder for families to be diligent about students' health and please keep them stay home if symptomatic or have a fever. Help keep our OMMS community healthy this school year. [Agreed. Please keep students home if they are sick. Notes can be submitted through Parent Portal.](#)
- Will the students get more (any?) homework? Thanks for all that you and the OMMS team do! [Students will be getting homework but many are taking advantage of the Choice Boards on Tuesday-Friday and doing their work at that time. Those that do not utilize that time, should be working on it at home and turning it in when it is due.](#)
- Why are the students not able to use the lockers? If a student is interested in a club that is not being offered this school year, is there a process to petition for its existence? [We do not have enough lockers for the number of students we have, we also want students carrying their books and chromebooks with them at all times. Therefore, we have book bags to decrease the number of damaged chromebooks we have at OMMS.](#)

Parent Questions/Comments - Page 2

- I attended the Back to School Night, but still have some confusion about iReady. I understand it is no longer a homework grade, but there were discrepancies among teachers about what is expected on Back to School Night compared to last year in 6th grade (40 min/1 lesson Math and Reading) now that it has changed this year. **Students should be doing 40 minutes in ELA and Math each week. It is not a grade but an expectation to help students close learning gaps.**
- Any field trips for 7th graders? **We are working on.**
- Why do the kids no homework? **We do have homework this year, but some students are choosing to do it during Building Community. Example: Math teachers are giving students a worksheet to complete by Friday. It has 5 problems on it.**

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

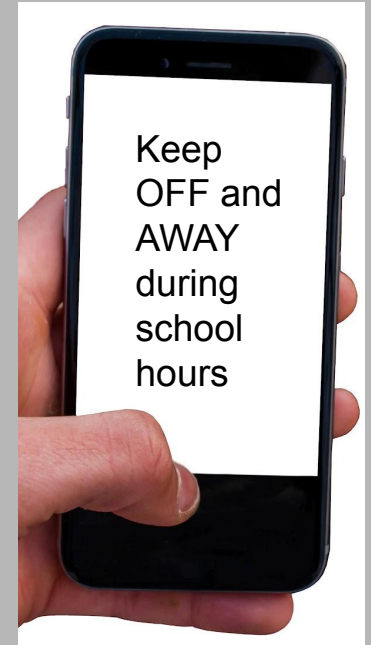
We are asking parents for their help!

Please keep all airpods and/or headphones at home!

Cell phones are to be off and away at all times during the school day (9-3:55pm)

If cell phones are used in class, students will receive discipline consequences following our AACPS code of conduct.

Please refrain from texting or calling your students during the day!



Chromebooks

Please have your student bring their chromebook and charger EVERY day.

We have a limited number of loaners for each IDT team, so if they do not have it for an assignment, students will need to do it paper/pencil or restart it by paper.

If lost, stolen or missing - please contact Ms. Mitchell in the front office. She works 8-12pm each day.



Transportation

<https://www.aacps.org/buses>

If your student rides a bus, please check this site daily.

Questions about transportation should be directed to:

If you have questions, please call the Transportation Office at 410-923-7890 or email transportation@aacps.org.

Virtual Academy

Virtual Academy Applications for the next school year (2024-25) will be updated soon. All applications are reviewed for academic and residency eligibility. Families will be notified of eligibility and application status by the end of February 2024.

The Virtual Academy is a Program of Choice and not a magnet, but the Virtual Academy does follow the magnet application timeline and processes outlined by the district. Please use this link to find the application: <https://www.aacps.org/virtualacademy>

Magnet Applications and Due Dates (8th grade families only and incoming 5th grade families)

Online Applications open October 9, 2023 and close at NOON on November 13, 2023

Applications completed after noon on November 13, 2023 will be considered late

STEM does not open for late applications.

Check with the leads of other programs for status on late applications.

We will inform each applicant about eligibility for Magnet lottery no sooner than late January.

Unweighted lottery held.

Lottery results posted before the end of February.

www.aacps.org/magnet is the website where students apply

Parent Portal

<https://www.aacps.org/parentportal>

PowerSchool Parent Portal is a powerful, easy-to-use, secure communication tool connecting parents/guardians and schools.

Using the PowerSchool student information system, the Parent Portal allows collaboration to improve student achievement.

Online access to student schedules, assignments, class grades and attendance information makes it easier for parents to monitor progress of students, in **Kindergarten through grade 12**, in **real time**.

PowerSchool Parent Portal allows parents/guardians access to all their children at one time with one username and password.

The mobile application is available for Apple and Android devices. The District code is **LTDJ**.

PTA



Please consider joining our PTA - Dues are \$10

Online Staff Store to Purchase OMMS Attire -

<https://www.sassyshoppe.net/shop.html#/>

PTA Link for membership - [Givebacks \(memberhub.com\)](https://memberhub.com)

Meeting are each month, sign up to get information and dates.

Calendar

- Principal Appreciation Month
- Hispanic Heritage Month
- 10/2: Custodian Appreciation Day
- 10/2: Coffee with the Principal 8 AM
- 10/3: After School Clubs Begin
- 10/4: Sports Jersey/Shirt Day
- 10/6: Patriot Day - Wear Red, White & Blue
- 10/9: Indigenous Peoples' Day
- 10/11: Super Hero/Disney Shirt Day ~ English Language Arts Night 6 PM- 7:30 PM
- 10/13: Patriot Day - Wear Red, White & Blue
- 10/17: Two Hour Early Dismissal - Unity Day - Wear Orange
- 10/18: College Shirt Day
- 10/20: Patriot Day - Wear Red, White & Blue
- 10/24: Family Math Night - 6 PM - 7:30 PM
- 10/25: Wacky Sock Day
- 10/24-10/26: Croc Charm Sales in Building Community
- 10/26: Picture Retake Day
- 10/27: Crocs Day ~ Patriot Day - Wear Red, White & Blue
- 10/30 & 10/31: Two Hour Early Dismissal - End of 1st MP
- 10/30: Trunk or Treat - OMMS Bus Loop - 5 PM - 7 PM






**SPECIAL OLYMPICS MARYLAND
UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOL
2023 BANNER RECIPIENT**


CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

OLD MILL MIDDLE SOUTH

AWARDED FOR ACHIEVING THE MARYLAND STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE
& HELPING CREATE A WORLD THAT IS NOT LIMITED BY DISABILITY


Jeffrey Abel

Vice President, Local Program Development
Special Olympics Maryland


Melissa Kelly

Senior Director, Unified Champion Schools Engagement
Special Olympics Maryland



Any other questions - put in chat box



THANK YOU

GRACIAS
ARIGATO
SHUKURIA
JUSPAXAR

TASHAKKUR ATU
GOZAIMASHITA
EFCHARISTO

BIYAN
SHUKRIA
BOLZİN
MERCI

GAZIE
MEHRBANI
PALDIES

DANKSCHEEN
SPASSIBO
SNACHALHUYA
NURUN
CHALTU
YAQHANYELAY
WADEEJA
MAITEKA
HUI
YUSPAGARATAM
SUKSAMA
EKHMET
SPASIBO
DENKAUJA
HENACHALHYA
UNALCHEESH
TINGKI
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HATUR
EKOJU
SIKOMO
MAKETAI
MINMONCHAR
AGUYJE
FAKAUE
KOMAPSUMNIDA
MAAKE
LAH
BAHKA
TAVYAPUCH
MEDAWAGSE
MERASTAWHY
GAEJTHO
SAHCO
ATTO
ANBIA
DIHANYADAD
YUSPAGARATAM