

Points of Interest:

- Parent Involvement
- Student Promotion
- Testing Information
- Parent Involvement Dates
- Athletic Dates
- Ways to Get Involved at Olmsted North
- Summer Reading

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From the Principal...

Starting April 22 and running through April 29, students at Olmsted Academy North will participate in taking the Kentucky Core Content Test. Students' performance on these required tests determine each school's progress, according to the goals established by the Kentucky Department of Education. 6th grade students will be assessed in Reading and Math; 7th grade students in Reading, Math, and Science; and finally 8th grade students will complete Reading, Math, Social Studies, and On Demand Writing assessments. On May 3 and 4, our 6th and 7th grades will take the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, which will focus on Math and Reading.

Throughout the year we have constantly assessed and measured our students to see if they are progressing through the use of Core Content Assessments (CCAs). We have seen steady growth this year in our Core Content Assessments given in all areas. Further, our student engagement level is high, and our teachers are working extremely hard every day to get our students ready. As we approach the testing window, we'll need the help and support of our wonderful Olmsted parents to ensure that student attendance is high and attitudes are positive during assessment.

Our second year as an all boys school has been markedly improved over our previous year. Our parents are more involved than ever with increased PTSA membership, doubled parent night attendance, and over 3,000 parent teacher conferences. Student attendance has been up 17 of the past 18 months. Additionally, we have continued to build

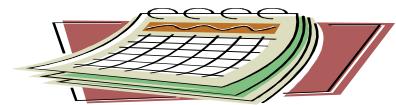
positive relationships with students through our morning CPR program with CARE for Kids. We continue to offer students more ways to be involved at Olmsted. Student membership in clubs has grown as we have doubled the number of clubs and mentorship programs available to our boys. Further, we added two new sports this year, cross country and lacrosse. This year has been a continuation of the wonderful things we started from last year at Olmsted Academy North.

I want to thank each of you for a wonderful school year, and I am enthusiastic about next year. I am proud to be principal at this school. I love the students, teachers, and community so much! I enjoy working with each of you. Please stop by anytime for a chat or to share your concerns. Also, I encourage you to become involved in our Parent Programs, as a volunteer for KCCT testing or through our PTSA. Most importantly, I appreciate your work with your child. I wish all of you the very best for this summer and next school year! Please feel free to call me at 485-8331 or email me at bill.perkins@jefferson.kyschools.us if you have any questions or concerns.



Bill Perkins, Principal

Attendance



It is vital that our students maintain good attendance. Please help us by encouraging your child to be at school each day. Feel free to call our Counselor Ms. Shonte' Hardin or our Youth Service Center Coordinator Durk Davidson if you have questions or need help regarding your child's attendance.

To encourage attendance, Olmsted will have Perfect Attendance Days April 22-29, with drawings for prizes for students who are at school on those days!

If your child is going to be absent due to illness or emergency please call us at 485-8331 so that we can notify teachers. We appreciate your partnership with us on this important issue.

Counselor's Corner

It seems like just a week ago we started school, but in reality the end of the school year is drawing closer and closer. Although we're close to the end, it's very important that we continue to encourage the students to come to school with a positive attitude, prepared for class, and ready to learn.

The fifth grading period will be ending on April 2nd, which means that we have only one grading period remaining. Please stress to your sons the importance of improving and maintaining their grades until the very last day of school. If you recall, the standards for Progression and Promotion changed at the beginning of the year. The standards are:

- Students must not earn more than two U's in a single class to pass that course for the year;
- Students must pass sixty-six and two-thirds of their classes to be promoted to the next grade;
- Students must pass Language Arts and Mathematics;
- Students must complete a writing portfolio.

At the conclusion of every six weeks, students who did not successfully pass a course were given course recovery packets to complete and pass with at least a 70%. Once the student passed the packet, the U was changed to a D. We will continue to afford students this opportunity until the end of the year.

Many of the eighth graders have been granted admission into the high school of their choice and we are extremely proud of them. However, those schools often come back and take a second look at the students' grades, attendance, and behavior to ensure that they have continued upon the correct path. Unfortunately, last year some of our students who had been accepted into a school later received a letter informing them that their school of choice had decided to rescind their invitation to attend the school. Eighth graders, keep working and achieving your goals!

Sixth and seventh graders need to understand that the grades that they are making now will help to determine whether or not they get into the high school of their choice. Our current seventh graders should keep in mind that they must score Apprentice, Proficient, or Distinguished on the Reading and Mathematics portions of the KCCT that we will be taking in April. Those scores will determine whether or not they have met the transition assessment standards in the eighth grade. If they do not meet or exceed the standards, they will not be promoted on to high school. Parents, let's keep encouraging them to do their very best **every** day!

Parents and guardians, **please** encourage your sons to continue to do their best every day. Even if they have not done as well as they would like, it is **not** too late to make progress. If you have any questions about your son being promoted to the next grade, please feel free to contact me at 485-8331 or email me at shonte'.hardin@jefferson.kyschools.us. Olmsted will NOT be offering a summer school program this year for struggling students so it is imperative that students do their best now.

If you only remember one thing from this article, please remember this: It is **not** too late for your son to be promoted to the next grade level!

Ms. Shonte' Hardin,

Counselor

Box Tops for Education!

We are collecting Box Tops for Education. They can be turned in to Mrs. Kingsbury's mailbox or in her room, 206. Our first submission netted the school \$32, and we'd like to shoot for \$50 this time. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents. Clip,



Are You An Involved Parent?

One factor that we know is extremely important to a student's success in school is parent involvement. What constitutes parent involvement is a little difficult to measure as a Quality Indicator on which school boards can judge and track district progress. While it is important for parents to take part in and support such efforts as school PTA's, booster clubs, and SBDM councils, all of these require a parent's presence in the building but may not ensure a child's success in school. What parents do for their kids away from school can be even more important and does not require their physical presence in the school building.

Parent involvement can be as simple as providing a space and time for your child to complete school work at home, expecting school work to be done correctly and on time.

It can be as simple as regularly signing your child's student agenda in acknowledgement that you have read teachers' comments and understand their expectations for your child. It can be simply making sure your child's teachers have a phone number where you can be reached so teachers can keep you informed of progress or problems. Phone conversations and your support for what teachers inform you of about your child, as well as email exchanges with teachers, accomplish just as much as face-to-face conferences if you are unable to be present at school.

Are you aware of grade-reporting dates and expect your child to show you his/her grades? Are you aware of important deadlines your child needs to observe and observe those with him/her? Are you involved in discussions about school choices with your child and help prepare him/her to make choices? Do you support your child's regular attendance at school? Do you complete and return forms your child needs for you to complete? Do you help your child with his/her work when he/she needs your help or do you know where to direct him/her if he/she needs other resources?

All of these are examples of ways a parent can be involved in his/her child's learning, and none of these require a parent's presence at school, but they all demonstrate to your child that you value education and you value your child's academic progress. **That** parent involvement message is what your child carries with him/her to and from school each day, and **that** is what supports his/her academic progress.

Linda Duncan
 JCS School Board
 District 5

"What parents do for their kids away from school can be extremely important and does not require their physical presence in the school building."

Testing...Testing...1, 2, 3...Testing...

No, we are not testing our sound system at Olmsted North! It is that time of year again when we begin to prepare for the state KCCT assessment. This year the testing window will begin Monday, April 19 and run through Thursday, April 29 for all grades. The state is implementing an additional test, the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS), to be given to sixth and seventh graders in math and reading. This test will be administered the entire week of May 3.

These are very critical tests because they help teachers gauge what your children have learned, and how to best modify instruction for them in the upcoming school year. The best way you can assist in preparing your child for this test is to encourage them to do their best, have them go to bed early during testing, and prepare balanced, healthy meals.

Below are the subjects, according to grade level, that our students will take.

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KCCT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Math • ITBS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading, Math 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KCCT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Math • Science • ITBS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading, Math 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KCCT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • On-Demand Writing • Math • Social Studies



We're on the Web!

You are encouraged to check out our updated website. The site provides wonderful parent links as well as information about our school.

<http://www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/Schools/Middle/OlmstedNorth/index.html>

Electronic Devices

We will be making a concentrated effort to confiscate any cell phones, MP3 players, Ipods, cameras, and PSP players brought to school during the testing window. If taken, we will NOT return these for 30 days. Please have your child keep these items at home for the remainder of the school year.



Every 1 Reads More Needs YOU!

Spring time has arrived and as the school year is coming to an end, everyone is awaiting the two famous words students like to hear: SUMMER VACATION! Or in the words of the classic rock song by Alice Cooper, "School's Out for the Summer"! Even as we prepare for summer, it is never too late to help out in the school system. One way in particular to be of assistance is through the Every 1 Reads program initiative. This program began in 2003, through a partnership among Greater Louisville Inc., Jefferson County Public Schools, and the Louisville Metro Government and set a goal for every student in the public school system to be performing at his/her reading level by 2008.

The success of the program has been phenomenal and because of this, the program is continuing with new façade: "Every 1 Reads More". The program not only focuses on people from the community helping students with their reading skills but also has a component that allows students from higher grades such as high school, go to the elementary schools and work help students who may be struggling. Because of such tremendous success, parents in the school system continue to serve.

As the Every 1 Reads More volunteer coordinator at Olmsted Academy North, I know that parental involvement is really needed to help keep this program successful. There are numerous ways to volunteer such as working with a student in one of the three grades, helping them with their reading skills, and more importantly being a positive role model. For a struggling student, knowing that someone cares for them and is willing to take just thirty minutes a week to work with them is a great feeling. With your help and participation, we can help make this program even more successful and improve reading skills.

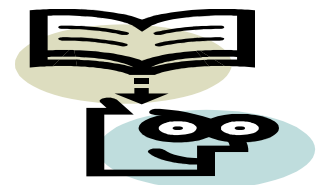
As a volunteer with the Every 1 Reads More program here at Olmsted, you can expect to be trained to utilize the Before During After (BDA) process with students. Prior to reading, you preview a book with students, Essentially that means you look through the book to see if there are illustrations, graphs, or other text features that might help stu-

dents better understand what the book is about. As you read with the student, you ask questions that you have or that you anticipate the student might have in order to prompt comprehension and engagement with the text. As you finish reading for the day, you help the student create a summary of what the two of you read during the session, perhaps doing different activities to reiterate what was covered.

As an Every 1 Reads More volunteer, you have the opportunity to create an enduring bond with a student. Earlier this school year, a married couple contacted me and wanted to work with one particular sixth grade student who started attending Olmsted. This couple and this young man have been working together on his reading skills since he was in elementary school. When you volunteer with Every 1 Reads More, you have the option of working with the same student as he progresses through middle school. It is powerful for both the student and you to go on this extended learning journey together.

Please consider taking advantage of this opportunity to get involved with the young men here at Olmsted North. To become an Every 1 Reads More volunteer, it's a simple one hour training course and a couple of other forms to fill out. Currently there are six volunteers here in the school doing a important work with our students, but there are many more young men here could use the kind of support you can provide. It would be amazing to see the program grow and flourish. Through this program and everyone's help in the building we can "Achieve the Dream" of having all of our students reading at grade level and be the role-model for the up and coming generation.

Mr. Micah Followay
AmeriCorps/ Every 1Reads
502-485-8331 x 124



Athletics at Olmsted Academy North are ON FIRE!

Athletics at Olmsted Academy North are creating quite the buzz, and we have much to be proud of with our young men!

As of March 30, our soccer team is undefeated with a record of 4-0. The players are coached by Billy Watson, Ms. Vogt and Mr. Fowler.

Coaches Mora, Dietz, and Voelker have a great group of young men on our baseball team this year. They are currently 3-1, and they've had some exciting games.

Both our soccer and baseball programs are young and their successes are a testament to both the players and the coaches. I've included a schedule of the remaining games. Come out and support our young men!

After Spring Break, Coach Harvey will be leading our Flag Football team. Those games will be played on Wednesdays and Thursdays, however, at this time the schedule hasn't been set. Check our website for dates and make plans to join us in cheering on our athletes. The team shows great potential, and I believe they will have a great season, "making some noise" in the district.

Look for information regarding Middle School Full Contact Football after Spring Break. We'll be putting together a team for the 2010-2011 season, and we look to be a dominating force.

Great things are happening in Athletics at Olmsted Academy North! Come out to see our young men play!

Jeffrey Phelps,

Athletic Director

Soccer Schedule:

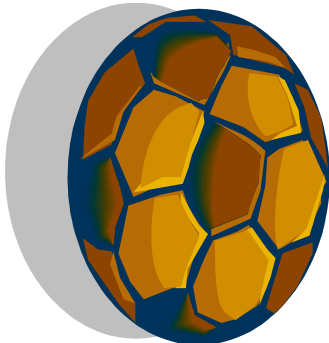
Games in **BOLD** are **HOME** games

*All games are at 5:30 unless otherwise noted

Thursday (4/1): Olmsted N. @ Lassiter

Tuesday (4/13): Frost @ Olmsted N.

Thursday (4/15): Olmsted N. @ Knight



Baseball Schedule:

F = Farnsley Middle,

SV = Skyview Park
(JAYBAS) Field 1



Thursday (4/1): Olmsted North @ Conway - 6:00 pm (SV)

Wednesday (4/14): Highland @ Olmsted North - 6:00 pm (SV)

Sunday (4/18): Olmsted North @ Newburg - 3:15 pm (F)

Thursday (4/22): Olmsted North @ TT Knight - 6:00 pm (SV)

Sunday (4/25): Bernheim @ Olmsted North - 1:00 pm (F)

Helping Your Student be More Successful in Reading

Parents often ask us how they can help their students be more successful in school. There are already some great suggestions contained within this newsletter, but one of the easiest ways to help your young man achieve success here at Olmsted Academy North is to provide him with support as he improves his reading skills. Struggling readers tend to be struggling students in all of their classes, and while we provide a variety of interventions here at school, there are some simple things that you can do with your student at home to help him in school.

First and foremost provide your student with the time and space to read every day for 20-30 minutes. Read with your student! It doesn't matter if it's the newspaper, a magazine, or a book. What matters is that students are reading. As you read with your young man, ask a few simple questions to help aid comprehension:

- What was this passage about?
- Why do you think the author wrote that particular line? Or used that specific word?
- What didn't you understand?
- What do you think might happen when we come back to this tomorrow?
- What picture do you see as we read?

While it doesn't seem like much, just helping students visualize what they read, ask questions of the text, and create summaries of their reading can improve their performance in reading. What you do with students at home reinforces what students are learning in the classroom. The partnership between home and school stresses to our students that everyone in the Olmsted Community values and appreciates reading. Our mission is "Every Child Proficient" and with your help and support, our students cannot help but be successful!



You can help your student be a better reader!

A Word from the Family Resource & Youth Service Center...

The Family Resource & Youth Service Center (FRYSC) provides invaluable support to the community of Olmsted Academy North.

Whether through Peer Mediation programs, assistance with uniform or transportation needs, or presentations in classrooms, Mr. Davidson, Ms. Nail, and Mr. Followay make it easier for students and staff to do their jobs when they walk through the door.

From time to time, the FRYSC needs our support. Right now they are in need of gently used school uniform pants and shirts as well as volunteers to assist in the work that happens here at Olmsted. To donate materials or to receive more information about the school volunteer process, please contact Ms. Nail at 502-485-8331 x 116.

The FRYSC is in need of gently used school uniform shirts and pants to replenish the supply they keep on-hand.

Summer Reading Returns to Olmsted Academy North

Our first annual summer reading program was such a success that it's returning this year with a few modifications. The constant is that we expect our young men to continue their education during the summer months by reading at least one novel between the end of school in June and their return to school in August.

After reading the novel, each student will be expected to complete a project which will then be turned in to their language arts

teacher during the first week of school.

Students who will be seventh and eighth graders next year will be given a book during the last month of school. Incoming sixth graders will be expected to read a novel of their choice that is at least 150 pages.

More information will be coming in May; be watching for it so you're prepared to start the 2010-2011 school year off on the right foot!



Get ready to take that book with you this summer!

Dates to Remember:

As we wind down the school year, keep the following dates in mind:

- Fifth Grading Period Report Cards Sent Home: April 20
- Perfect Attendance Days: April 22-29
- KCCT Testing Window: April 22-29
- ITBS Testing Window (6th & 7th Grades): May 3-6
- Teacher Appreciation Week: May 3-7
- No School for Students: May 18*
- Last Day of School for Students: June 1*
- Eighth Grade Promotion/Honors Program: June 1*
- Report Cards Mailed Home: June 14



*Dates subject to change if May 18 is used as a make-up day. Please check with the school website for updates.

Eighth Grade Promotion and Honors Program

To honor our Eighth Grade students, we will have a promotion and honors program on the last day of school. To participate, students must be in dress code.



Times:

- Street Sense: 8:30
- Contenders: 9:30
- Determine: 11:00

JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Equal Opportunity Policies

Equal Employment Opportunity

Employees/Applicants

The Jefferson County Public School District shall not discriminate in recruitment or employment on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, marital or parental status, national origin, race, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, religion, or political opinion or affiliation. The District shall promote equal opportunities through a vigorous affirmative action program as an integral part of personnel policy and practice in the employment, development, advancement, and treatment of employees of the Jefferson County Public Schools.

In the Event of Questions

Employees or applicants, report to immediate superior, appropriate personnel administrator, the Compliance and Investigations Office, or the appropriate enforcement agency if you believe you have experienced harassment/discrimination.

Equal Educational Opportunity

Students/Parents or Guardians

No student shall be denied equal educational opportunity for any reason by the Jefferson County Board of Education because of his or her age, color, disability, parental status, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, or veteran status.

Harassment/Discrimination of any type is not permitted. A student has the right to attend school free from harassment and should not be subjected to discrimination for any reason. Schools will strive to ensure that these rights are protected and that appropriate consequences are provided to offenders.

In the Event of Questions

Students and parents/guardians, report to principal, the Compliance and Investigations Office, or the appropriate government agency if you believe you have experienced harassment/discrimination.

Noncompliance with the above policy and procedures may result in disciplinary action.

Discrimination Grievance Procedure

The Jefferson County Public Schools Discrimination Grievance Procedure is available at local schools, on the Jefferson County Public Schools Web site at www.jcpsky.net, or in the Compliance and Investigations Office, C. B. Young Jr. Service Center, 3001 Crittenden Drive, Louisville, KY 40209. Contact Cheryl Walker, Compliance and Investigations director, at 485-3341, or call or write one of the following enforcement agencies:

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

600 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Place, Suite 268
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 582-6082
www.eeoc.gov

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights

Wanamaker Building, Suite 515
100 Penn Square East
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 656-8541
www.ed.gov

Kentucky Commission on Human Rights

The Heyburn Building, Suite 700
332 West Broadway
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 595-4024
<http://kchr.ky.gov>

Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission

410 West Chestnut Street, Suite 300A
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 574-3631
www.louisvilleky.gov/HumanRelations

