

279Online Boost

October 2022 Newsletter 279Online

Hello, 279Online families and caregivers! Thank you so much for what you do every day to assist your scholar with engaging in school. We are off to a great start and look forward to celebrating successes at our upcoming parent-teacher conferences. Please read the newsletter thoroughly each month, as we will provide updates about our school community, helpful resources, important dates to remember, events and much, much more.

Meet our 279Online Principals; Principal Kristen Hauge and Assistant Principals Ryan Bisson, Ben Karls and Michelle Munkholm have been working this summer on some pretty awesome things for you.



October Days Off

There is no school for students on the following dates this month

- Thursday, October 20th
- Friday, October 21st

Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences

Save the date!

Please mark your calendars for Fall Conferences. **Conferences will be held virtually.** Check [ParentVUE](#) on Friday, September 30th to see your scholars' teachers' available times for both conference dates. The online booking through ParentVUE will close Wednesday, October 5th at 2:00PM. If you will need interpreter services during the conferences, please let the teachers know.

Once scheduled, your teacher will send a message through ParentVUE to provide a google link to the conference before Thursday, October 6th. If you do not receive this message, please contact us at online@district279.org or 763-391-8670.

Check out some session offerings our counselors and specialists are hosting [at this link](#).

Trimester 1 Conferences for Grades K-5 AM & PM

Thursday, Oct 6th - 7:15-8:15am and 3:30-8:00pm

Thursday, Oct 13th - 7:15-8:15am and 3:30-8:00pm

Trimester 1 Conferences for Grades 6-12 PM Only

Thursday, Oct 6th - 3:30-8:00pm

Thursday, Oct 13th - 3:30-8:00pm

For ParentVUE support, please check out [this link](#).

Elementary Scheduling Directions for Families:

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)

[Hmong](#)

[Vietnamese](#)

[Mandarin](#)

[Khmer](#)

[Oromo](#)

[Somali](#)

Secondary Scheduling Directions for Families:

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)

[Hmong](#)

[Vietnamese](#)



Picture Day

279Online picture retakes and make up day will be held on Friday, October 28th. More information will be coming soon. Please stay tuned!



Hello Otters! Want to go watch sporting events at our district high schools? See below for information.



MGSH games

- All students must show their ID (ID card or StudentVue)
- No water bottles or backpacks allowed
- No re-entry if you leave
- All elementary and middle school students must be accompanied and supervised by an adult.

*Note: Certain games may be restricted to students from the participating schools only. (ie. MGSH vs OSH)



PCSH games

- Students Grades 9-12 must show their ID (ID card or StudentVue)
- Backpacks are allowed but will be searched
- No re-entry if you leave
- All elementary & middle school students must be always accompanied and supervised by an adult



OSH games

- 279Online students will need a guest pass connected with an OSH student to attend OSH home football and select basketball games.
- All other sports events you can attend without a guest pass

279Online College and Career Resource Center

Please take a moment to review the College & Career Resource Center Newsletter put together by Mr. Otis. See below or [follow this link](#)

279 ONLINE
University Services

Audio Overview Links USE WITH AUDIO

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- College Knowledge Month
- Free Nursing Assistant Classes
- College Fairs and College Reps
- FAFSA and Financial Aid
- AP Testing
- Virtual Family Sessions

COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE MONTH

Minnesota Goes to College is our state's effort to provide graduating high school seniors with the preparation, opportunity, and support needed to apply and enroll in college. The CRC, along with the other high schools in D77, are hosting events for students and families. These events focus on college and career exploration, financial aid and Dream Act information, and application completion.

There are many resources to help college-bound juniors and seniors. Also, most MN college advise application fees for the month of October. Check out the [College Knowledge Month](#) and explore [colleges and careers](#).

FREE NURSING ASSISTANT CLASSES

Multiple MN colleges are offering tuition-free, hybrid Nursing Assistant classes through the Next Generation Nursing Assistant Initiative. This initiative reduces the cost of tuition, books, uniforms, and certification exam for anyone interested in pursuing a career as a nursing assistant. The [Info Office of Nursing](#) [has website](#) has more info.

CAREER SPEAKER: Firefighter

Thursday, October 12 at 11:45am
Students must sign up in advance to attend. Use [this form](#) to sign up.
Students will receive an email or pass

TOP 5 SCHOLARSHIPS

1. **Vince at Emergency** up to \$350 due 10-31-22
2. **Cora Cole Scholar** \$1,000 due 10-31-22
3. **Zomba Apocalypse** \$2,000 due 10-31-22
4. **Eric Allen** \$1,000 due 10-31-22
5. **Active: Full Tuition** scholarships due 10-31-22

AP TESTING

The AP Test Registration window is open October 2nd. To register, AP students must complete the [AP Exam Registration Form](#) and pay for the exams by Oct 23.

To avoid late fees, students must pay for late exams by Oct 18. Students that pay after Oct 18 will have to pay a \$20 late fee in addition to the AP exam fee (\$90 total). Students that qualify for free/reduced lunch receive a fee waiver for their AP exams. However, this fee waiver does NOT cover any late fees.

AP students MUST have a College Board account and be enrolled in the AP course. AP exams CANNOT be ordered for students not enrolled in the College Board.

MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMIES

Interested in attending a Military Academy after high school? Congressman Dean Phillips is hosting an information session on Oct 4 from 6:00-7:30 pm at Residence Academy (5500 Schmidt Lake Rd, Plymouth).

FAFSA & FINANCIAL AID

Completing the FAFSA or the Dream Act application is the first step in receiving financial aid for college. The FAFSA application is FREE and opens every year on October 1. When completing the FAFSA, you will need to enter financial information from the prior year. For students attending college in the fall of 2023, you will need 2021 tax documents. Here is a complete list of [what to do to complete the FAFSA](#). The CRC will be hosting FAFSA Completion Events for students and their families, on Nov 12, Jan 16 Feb 28 & Apr 13.

VIRTUAL FAMILY SESSIONS

In addition to the mini-sessions and career panels offered to students during the school day, the CRC is excited to be offering sessions for students and families in the evening. All virtual family sessions are held via Google Meet at 6p and last 30-40 minutes. Topics and links are found on the [CRC calendar](#).

The Oct 19 session is about senior year, tasks and timelines to prepare students for graduation.

Nov 12 will be a FAFSA Completion event for seniors and families. Bring your [account](#) and get the FAFSA completed that night. There will be financial aid professionals to help you with your questions and the application.

ATTENTION OTTERS & LIONS!!!

SENIORS

- **Scholarships** - start planning and looking now and sign up for scholarship meeting houses
- **Teacher Recommendations** - start thinking about which teacher you want to ask for a letter of recommendation
- **College Essays** - some colleges and scholarship require a personal essay. Take a look at the [College Essay](#) [resources](#)

JUNIORS

- October is the month to start exploring postsecondary education. Meet with one of the staff in the CRC to receive more information about high school. Explore all your options. [Click](#) to find the right major and preparation.

SOPHOMORES

- Begin thinking and practicing for the ACT. It is not an exam you can study for. There are a ton of free resources on the [CRC website](#)

FRESHMEN

- Get involved in your community and volunteer! Keep a record of your hours and complete the [service log](#) to have them added to your transcript.

Elementary Specialist Schedule

Elementary scholars are on a rotating schedule with the three specialists; Art with Ms. Colosimo, Music with Ms. Buelow, and PE with Mr. Sycks. Classroom teachers are including the rotations in their clickable schedule (see example below). Our specialists will communicate what they're focusing on with the grade level. If you have questions about your schedule, please contact your student's teacher.

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting
9:00	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math
9:55	Reading	Reading	Writing	Reading	Reading
10:50	PE/Art/Music	PE/Art/Music	Work Time	PE/Art/Music	PE/Art/Music
11:45-12:15	Lunch				
12:20	Number Corner	Number Corner	Acceleration Block	Number Corner	Number Corner
1:15	Social Studies or Science	Social Studies or Science	Exploratory Block	Social Studies or Science	Social Studies or Science
2:10	Reading Groups	Reading Groups	Work Time	Reading Groups	Reading Groups
3:00	Closing	Closing	Closing	Closing	Closing

Please take a few minutes to tell us how we are doing!

279Online Fall 2022 Family Feedback

We are seeking family and community feedback regarding our school and also our positive behavioral expectations. This is part of District 279's Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports system, otherwise known as PBIS. In 279Online, this work will be led by a committee of staff, scholars and parents/caregivers. Below is an image of our school-wide behavior expectations. Please take a few minutes to answer the questions below. Your feedback is important to us. We will use your feedback to plan for this school year. We are also looking for members to join our committee. Please indicate your interest in this form. Thank you for your contributions!

[Sign in to Google](#) to save your progress. [Learn more](#)

* Required

Join our District Planning Advisory Council!

DPAC is looking for parents / guardians to serve a one-year term. Membership is based on interest, not educational expertise. Members include up to two representatives from each elementary building and up to three representatives from each secondary building, up to six non-parents from the community, one School Board member, ISD 279 teachers and administrators, and senior high students. Additional

information about DPAC is available on the website at <https://www.district279.org/life-279/advisory-groups/dpac>

[District Planning Advisory Council Volunteer Form](#)

Click here to complete your
free and reduced lunch
application.



The Free/Reduced lunch program can also provide scholars and families with benefits like lower fees for lost items, exams, etc., this program also provides the school and the district with much-needed funding. [Please complete this application today.](#)

District and Community Resources

Rather than posting numerous resources each week, we are compiling them in a Google Doc that will be updated accordingly. Please [click here](#) for assistance regarding things like mental health, food and clothing support, and Internet access.

Schoology Guide for Families

For families who use Schoology, we created this handy reference guide to help you navigate what you'll see in Schoology, how Schoology is different than ParentVue, and how to get support for accessing the parent side of Schoology. [Click here](#) for the reference guide.



Schoology Guide



Commonly Used Gradebook Symbols

—	Not turned in
0 Missing	Missing
Incomplete	Incomplete
—	Online test/quiz that has been turned in, but not graded
—	Assignment has been submitted but not graded

Converting to Traditional Letter Grades

A	= 3.51 - 4.0
A-	= 3.00 - 3.50
B+	= 2.84 - 2.99
B	= 2.67 - 2.83
B-	= 2.50 - 2.66
C+	= 2.34 - 2.49
C	= 2.17 - 2.33
C-	= 2.00 - 2.16
D+	= 1.84 - 1.99
D	= 1.67 - 1.83
D-	= 1.50 - 1.66
F	= 0.00 - 1.49

Setting Up Parent Schoology Notifications

You may elect to receive two email digests of your scholar's activity in Schoology. To manage email digest settings in your parent account:

1. Click the arrow on the top right of Schoology.
2. Select a child from the list that appears in the drop-down menu.
3. Once you're viewing the scholar's account, click the downfacing arrow again.
4. Select **Settings**.
5. From the **Notifications** tab, you can elect to receive one or both of two email summaries:
 - o To receive the **Parent Email Digest**, select **On** in your **Email Summary** menu. You can receive emails on a **Daily** or **Weekly** basis. If you choose **Daily**, you may set a time at which the notification will be sent to your inbox. If you choose **Weekly**, you'll have an additional option to select the day of the week you'd like to receive the email.

ParentVue is used for:	Schoology is used for:
-View Attendance	-View Assignments
-View Schedule	-View Course Materials
-View Health Records	-Scores on Assignments & Tests
-View Standardized Test History	-Current Grades
-View Report Cards	
-Sign up for conferences	

If you have questions or would like additional support navigating and understanding Schoology, please call 279Online at 763-391-8670.

For additional information, including video instructions, scan this QR code



Technology Assistance

Need help logging in to an account, checking in for an online meeting with a teacher, or setting up a device? Check out the technology resources in the [Parent and Family Toolkit](#).

Need more technology assistance? The district tech support help desk is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on student days, and 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on non-student days. Email help@district279.org or call 763-391-7180.

Attendance/Absence Reporting

Reminders about Attendance Practices for 279Online:

GRADES K-5

Teachers take attendance twice a day through their classroom meetings.

GRADES 6-12

- Scholars are expected to self report attendance through a Schoology attendance quiz for each class by **6:00 pm** in Schoology daily
 - [Click here for scholar directions](#)
- Teachers verify and submit the official attendance record in Synergy the next day.

- At 6:00 pm, School Messenger calls will go out to families for scholars with unexcused absences from the **previous day**
- If a scholar is unable to attend, families need to report the absence to 279Online in order to excuse the absence (phone: 763-391-8670 option 1 or email: online@district279.org) OR report your student(s) FULL DAY absences in ParentVue. [Click Here](#) for directions.
- While attendance is taken through this quiz, scholars are **still expected to attend synchronous meetings** with their teachers and engage in their learning. We want them to be there and miss them when they don't come!

Teachers will review this attendance process with scholars in advisory and their classes. If you have any questions regarding attendance please contact your scholars' teachers or the main office (phone: 763-391-8670).

Device and Materials Distribution Reminder

District Issued Device

If your student has not received their district issued device, please email the HelpDesk (Help@district279.org) to set up an appointment to pick up your scholar's device at the Educational Service Center (ESC).

Curricular Materials

279Online's materials distribution hub is now open and located at Oak View Elementary. If you were unable to pick up materials at the Open House, please call the office (763.391.8684) to schedule a time for pick up.

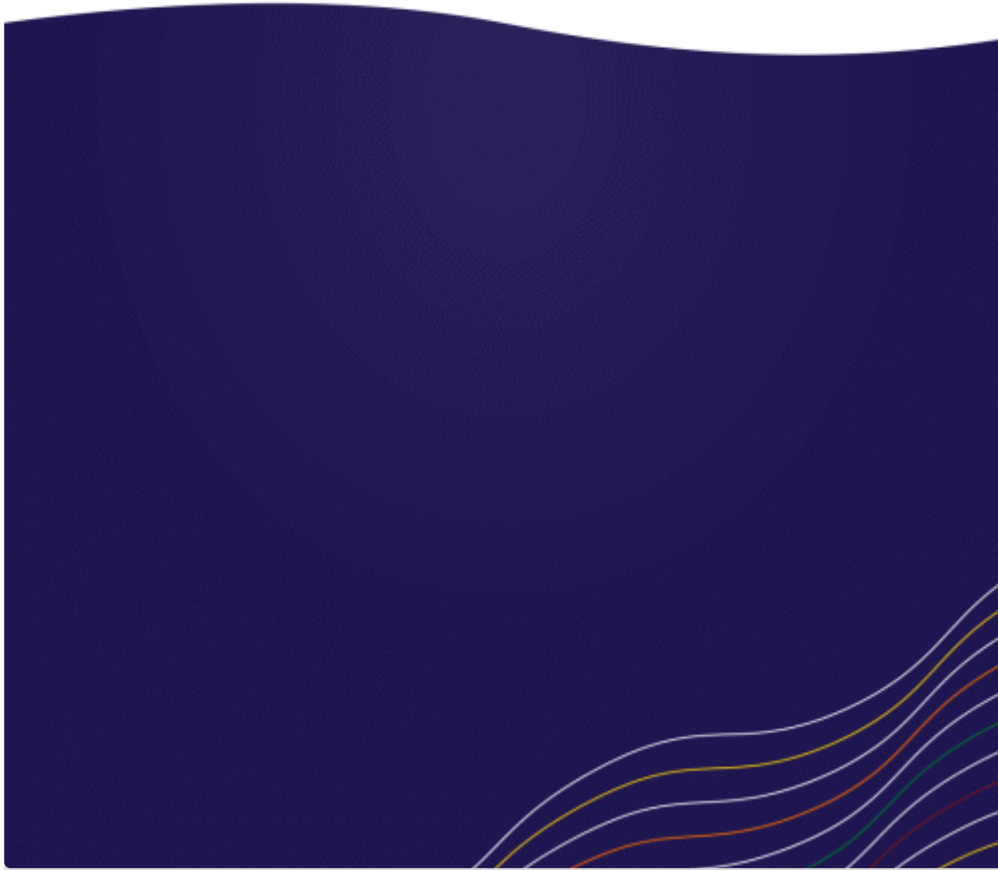
Oakview Elementary: 763.391-8684 - Please call ahead so materials will be ready for you upon arrival.

Office hours: 8am-4pm

6710 E Fish Lake Rd

Maple Grove, MN 55369

Throughout the year, if your scholar requires any physical materials, their teacher will communicate that to you. Materials will be available at the distribution hub once you receive this communication.



Building a Better Future: How does the referendum improve safety/security if approved by voters?

School safety and security is always our top priority. Much of the technology that is currently being used for safety/security purposes at Osseo Area Schools is outdated, unreliable or simply unavailable or structured to the needed level.

Question 2, the technology levy, would help to ensure a safe and secure school environment, by providing funding for cameras, door lock systems and visitor management tools as well as an emergency response system that our district can collaborate with law enforcement partners on. It also includes needed safety and security technology for the online world, including cybersecurity assessments and systems. Two facts on cybersecurity: In 2020, 44% of education institutions were targeted by ransomware attacks; the cost associated with downtime, repairs and lost opportunities with the attacks was estimated at \$2.73 million.

Question 1, the operating levy, would also help to ensure a safe and welcoming school environment, by providing funding for day-to-day classroom and support staff. The majority of the district's expenditures are for staff to service scholars. In fact, if both levies expire completely, 450 staff members will need to be cut in 2024. That would be a significant increase in the scholar to staff ratio and in turn impact the school environment.

Early voting has started. Residents have the option to vote early by mail or in person. If you choose in person, Brooklyn Park City Hall and the Maple Grove Government Center are both welcoming voters. Visit the ["How Do I Vote" section of the *Building a Better Future* website](#) for details on locations and hours.

For additional information on the referendum, stop by the next **Community Informational Meeting at 6 p.m. on Oct. 4 at Park Center Senior High School** ([YouTube livestream](#)) or visit district279.org/BetterFuture.