

THE KNIGHTLY NEWS

Principal: Dr. Danny Medved

Assistant Principals:
Jason Eiding, Lisa Holst

Dear Orchard Mesa Families,

We are excited to be well into the month of September at Orchard Mesa Middle School. Students and teachers are now entering their sixth week of teaching and learning. Our teachers have worked hard to establish classroom environments that prioritize learning of important content and students meeting high academic and behavior expectations. This work is not easy and teachers meet and plan intentionally each week to ensure the success of each student. I am so proud of our staffs' positive attitudes, level of commitment, and intentional actions. They really are an awesome team.

One example of our teacher's student centered approach is the *Knights' Round Table* meetings that our teachers lead each week. These meetings happen each Tuesday (6th grade) and Wednesday (7th and 8th grades) and entail the gathering of a whole grade level of students for about 15-20 minutes. During this time staff recognize students of the week, they engage in shouting out specific positive actions that they saw students engage in, they share important information, and they help students look ahead to upcoming events. At one *Knights' Round Table* students learned about our Knights Gold incentive program and they reviewed our OMMS Three Big Rules that support a safe and positive learning community at OMMS. Students have been showing high levels of engagement and focus during these *Round Table* meetings. I continue to be impressed by our teachers and students.

Another big thing happening at OMMS is the start of our student leadership groups. Over the last several weeks we had students learn about and sign up for student leadership opportunities. This year we will have three formal ways students can lead: 1. Student Council, 2. Calvary, and 3. Sources of Strength. We had 36 students across grades 6-8 accepted to serve on Student Council, and 22 8th grade students accepted to serve in Calvary, which is a mentorship based leadership group. We will be recruiting our final group of Sources of Strength student leaders in the weeks ahead. It is amazing to see such a large part of our student body aspiring to leadership and service roles in our school community.

Thank you for your investment in your child's education. Continue reading below for essential information on a few important topics. As always, you can also reach out to our front office, school administrators, or your child's Advisor with questions. We look forward to another great month in the OMMS kingdom!

Go Knights!

Respectfully,

Danny

UPCOMING EVENTS

9/11 Honor Orchestra
Auditions

9/11 PTA and School Accountability
Committee (5-6:30)

9/25 No School: Ed Effectiveness day

10/5 "Challenge Forward" Visioning
Process (3:45-5)

STUDENT FEES

There is a \$42.00 instructional fee for every student. The instructional fee covers a portion of the cost of materials that are expendable and consumable and/or items students will retain after the class, such as art supplies, computer and technology supplies, planners, and science lab supplies. Fees can be paid at the Main Office or online at MyPaymentsPlus.com.

Other Student Fees

\$100 instrument fee (Band/Orchestra Students)

\$70 Athletic Participation (If your student is playing a sport 7th and 8th grade only)

\$25 Yearbook (Optional)

Please reach out to Lindsey Wyser - Lindsey.Wyser@d51schools.org with any questions or concerns regarding student fees.

OMMS ATHLETICS

The Girl's Volleyball season has started strong here at Orchard Mesa!
Come cheer on our Knights!

UPCOMING GAMES

9/12 - 3:45 8th grade vs RMS
A/B/C/D
7th grade @ Redlands Middle A/B/C

9/14 - 3:45 8th grade vs WMS
B/C/A
7th @ West Middle School B/C/A

9/19 TBD

9/20 TBD

PLAYOFFS - TBD

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Parents, Grandparents, and friends of Orchard Mesa Middle School, we are in need of help in our library. If you could volunteer once a week for an hour to help pull books and re-shelve books in our library, that would help us get books in kids' hands faster! If you are interested and want more details, please contact the main office.



Attendance Reminder

All student absences must be called in by 9:00 am.
If you aren't able to speak to a secretary then please leave a detailed message.
Please include the student's first and last name and specific reason that your child is absent.

Please notify the office within 48 hours of the absence.
Attendance Office number: 970-254-6320 ext: 38100

Thank you.



Parents need help with Schoology? Click below for help!



https://omms.d51schools.org/schoology_resources

GVT Bus Passes

Our partners at Grand Valley Transit will again offer free GVT bus passes for D51 middle (**need to verify middle school**) and high school students this year. In order for your child to receive a free bus pass, you must first fill out the form online (in [English](#) or [Spanish](#))

Everything you write on the form is completely secure and confidential. The form will be used to determine TANF eligibility, which will help GVT recoup funding and keep the program going. You or your child can pick up the bus pass (which is a sticker for their student ID) from your child's school, any Mesa County public library, GVT Downtown or West Transfer Facility.