

Committed Distance Learning Newsletter

September 18, 2020



WEEKLY WINS

Last week we had Spirit Week. Each day had a different theme, this picture is from "Wear your Favorite Hat Day."- Mrs. Browning (2nd Grade)

I was so excited that 100% of my students showed up to their individually scheduled conferences! Getting familiar with a new school schedule can be challenging, especially when all classes/meetings take place online. I am so proud of their efforts, and it's been wonderful getting a chance to get to know them each a little better! - Mrs. Crisp (5th Grade)

The second graders are using the message feature in Schoology to message me when they have a question about an assignment or need help otherwise! I love that they are able to

IMPORTANT DATES

September 21

Professional Development Day - No School

QUICKLINKS

Olentangy District
Website CDL Page including Parent
Question & Answers

<u>Technology</u> Troubleshooting

<u>Current Student Absence</u> <u>Form</u> - parents will communicate with me and advocate for themselves without asking for their parent's help! - Mrs. Howard (2nd Grade)

We viewed a video in our Teams morning meeting. The video was from DiscoveryEd, Reading Rainbow Tin Forest, and discussed how elementary students, like us, overcame the nationwide tragedy of 9-11 and are "Back Where We Belong" I assured them that we, too, can overcome this time in our history and we will be Back Where We Belong but until then, we are in this together and we are going to learn and have fun this year. The song is very inspirational and as I told my colleagues at FTES, if you replace the heroes in the music video with teachers, and you replace the kids in the video with Olentangy kids, well it gives us hope that we will all indeed be Back Where We Belong. Here's the music video which was just part of the DiscoveryEd Reading Rainbow video that we watched together as Team Laughlin! I have since added the music video to our Schoology course where we can revisit it when we need inspiration...and we ALL need inspiration! - Mrs. Laughlin (3rd Grade)

RESOURCE & TECHNOLOGY

ISSUES

I want to take a moment to praise the CDL teachers and their efforts over the last few weeks. As with any new technology program, we have faced numerous technical issues that have specifically impacted the Olentangy CDL program. While some challenges have been across Ohio school districts, I take full responsibility for the technology challenges within the Committed Distance Learning program. In no way have any of these issues been a result of poor preparation on the teacher's part. CDL program leadership is working to evolve and grow,

receive new studentspecific link next week.

CDL Program Overview

Olentangy Student Handbooks

Please utilize the olsd CDL@olsd.us email for questions regarding the Committed Distance Learning program.

and we continue to ask for your patience and grace with the overall program, and more importantly towards your child's teacher. I am confident that as we move forward each week, many of the issues will be addressed and/or resolved.

I cannot praise the CDL staff's dedication enough. The success of this program is truly a result of their enthusiasm towards learning, and care and concern for your child's education.

ATTENDANCE

We are continually working to adjust student attendance, as we know recognize there is no one perfect model for the Committed Distance Learning program. In the coming days families will receive a student-specific attendance link. This link will be specific to each child in the household and cannot be shared with other family members or families. We will continue to keep the standard attendance form accessible for families, but our hope is that the student-specific link will allow for ease in reporting. Much like the middle school electives email, it will be sent to the guardian's email address from PowerSchool. Please make sure that all PowerSchool emergency contact information is updated.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

The Student Code of Conduct applies to all Olentangy students when they are on school property, when they are engaged in school-related activities off school property, and when their behavior impacts school activities. Therefore, the Student Code

of Conduct applies to all Committed Distance Learning students.

CDL students will be held accountable to the Student Code of Conduct. Violations of the Code of Conduct will result in discipline that can include loss of privileges, suspension, or expulsion.

CDL uses many technology programs that can track student activities. Bullying, threats, intimidation, and offensive or degrading language that occurs on school technology platforms, even after school hours, will be flagged for discipline. Students should be aware that Microsoft Teams, Google Drive, and Schoology are among the programs that are monitored. Students should refrain from using these platforms for communication unrelated to school activities.

Overall, we want students to be good Digital Citizens. You are already teaching your students to be good human beings, and we want to make sure they understand what that means online. In a virtual setting, it may be easier for students to send cruel messages that they wouldn't otherwise say. All CDL teachers have access to Digital Citizenship lessons and resources, and we want parents to have access to resources as welll. Visit the Common Sense webpage for resources that educate on helping your child be a positive part of their CDL community.

PICTURE DAY

All Committed Distance Learning students will be able to participate in school pictures with their home buildings. If you have not received information on picture day, we encourage

you to reach out to the child's home buildings for further information.

TESTING UPDATE

Yesterday, families in grades two and three received information regarding aimsweb testing. Families who do not have a district-issued Chromebook should watch for communication from their child's home building with directions to pick up a device.

I have received many questions about keeping the device for the remainder of the year. Providing the student remains in the Committed Distance Learning program, they may keep the district-issued Chromebook through the 2020-2021 school year.

NEW TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

The Committed Distance Learning program is working to purchase a variety of technology resources and applications for the students that will aid learning in a virtual setting. Throughout the year, your child's teacher may implement a new resource or application that we have purchased and placed within the myOLSD portal or backpack. All of these resources have met our security and privacy requirements established by the district. If you have any questions about these resources, please contact me directly at jennifer furey@olsd.us.

REMINDERS

As a friendly reminder, there are immunization requirements for all kindergarten, seventh, and twelfth-grade students. Any new students enrolling in the district also have immunization requirements. For more information on those requirements, please click on the appropriate link below.

Kindergarten

Seventh Grade

Twelfth Grade

New Students

All further questions can be directed to Kara Haney at kara_haney@olsd.us.

740-657-4050 OLENTANGY SCHOOLS 7840 Graphics Way, Lewis Center, 43035

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