

WELCOME TO ORONO SCHOOLS

www.oronoschools.org

Where **excellence**
is a **tradition**
and a **goal**



COMMITMENT

Orono Schools is forward thinking, not only about where students are today, but what they will become long after graduation. It is about encouraging high levels of academic achievement as well as instilling character and building strong peer and adult relationships to gain understanding and support for others.

STRATEGIC GOALS

Scholarship

Through personalized and rigorous learning, students and staff will apply high levels of interdisciplinary knowledge across all content areas.

Character

Students and staff will understand and model core ethical values for a life of integrity.

Relationships

Students and staff will engage in strong academic relationships.

MISSION

Our students will maximize their potential in life because of their experiences in Orono Schools.





VALUES

Excellence

Encourage students, staff and administration to reach their highest levels of personal achievement.

Fortitude

Build qualities of courage, perseverance and resilience.

Relationships

Promote respectful and caring relationships.

Inclusion

Embrace diverse and unique needs, backgrounds, ideas and talents.

Global Perspective

Inspire learners to be engaged citizens in the modern world.

Stewardship

Demonstrate constant accountability through responsible planning and use of resources.



RAISING CHILDREN IN ORONO SCHOOLS

Profile of an Orono Graduate

A graduate of Orono Schools will engage in the lifelong pursuit of fulfillment, growth, and contribution to community and society by developing mastery in three areas: scholarship, character and relationships.

Scholarship

- Master of rigor across broad academic content
- Flexible, critical thinker
- Creative problem solver
- Designer of innovative solutions
- Effective communicator
- Motivated, lifelong learner
- Curious and confident learner

Character

- Ethical decision maker
- Empathetic and caring
- Resilient and persistent
- Trustworthy
- Self-aware
- Self-managing and disciplined
- Responsible citizen

Relationships

- Collaborative team-player
- Adaptive
- Respectful of others
- Culturally competent
- Socially aware
- Leader and consensus-builder
- Effective conflict manager

A CULTURE OF CHARACTER

Orono Schools continues its longstanding commitment to weaving character throughout the curriculum. We believe every child—at every developmental level—thrives within a common language of character and ethics. This program is an important part of districtwide goals, leadership programs and staff development initiatives.



Throughout the district, visible reminders of the Pillars of Character show the long-term commitment to character education.

Orono's Classrooms of Character

To promote a positive school climate, the district has adopted a *Classrooms of Character* approach that integrates the Six Pillars of Character (trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship) with social emotional learning. How is this demonstrated in our classrooms?

Knowing that we touch the lives of others every day through *attitudes, words and actions*, we give students a common language that establishes behavioral expectations and guidelines for expressing their own feelings. This common language is a key classroom management strategy that empowers students to be self-aware, to self-manage behaviors, respect others and make caring decisions. These life competencies complement a student's academic portfolio.

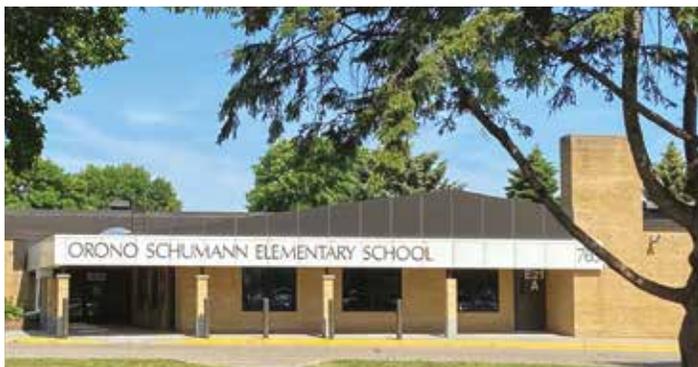
Orono's unique approach also focuses on supportive relationships and cultural competency. These principles form the fabric of our learning community. They are the essence of how we treat each other, value each other, and show empathy for each other. We believe students are more successful when these core ethical values are integrated into student life.

FIVE FUNDAMENTAL CLASSROOM PRACTICES

- 1 Orono teachers and staff are the living role models of our character work. They focus on building strong relationships with students and demonstrating sincere care and concern.
- 2 By melding character with social emotional traits (self-awareness, self-management, social awareness), we foster a respect for all members of our learning community.
- 3 We intentionally teach academics and desired social emotional skills and character traits that motivate students to make good choices.
- 4 We provide schoolwide opportunities to integrate Character Counts! and promote a positive climate.
- 5 We practice character-based discipline by communicating desired behavioral expectations in class. This intentional approach helps students participate effectively in school.

WALK DOWN OUR STREET

Orono Schools (district #278) is located on a beautiful, 120-acre campus in Long Lake, Minnesota, in the west-metro area of Minneapolis. Organized in 1949, the district serves all or part of the following communities: Independence, Long Lake, Maple Plain, Medina, Minnetonka Beach and Orono. The statewide enrollment options program allows families who live outside school district boundaries to apply for open enrollment into Orono Schools. *See pages 16-17.*



Orono Schumann Elementary • K-1-2

The K-2 school format is unique in the area, allowing teachers and staff to focus on the needs of younger learners. Every child is known! This fosters a sense of belonging and contributes to the positive child-teacher relationships so highly valued by district staff and parents. *See pages 8-9.*



Orono Intermediate School • 3-4-5

Students at Orono Intermediate School continue to build on a strong, early-years foundation while exploring interests through personalized learning. Students grow and achieve within a caring environment that promotes independence and accountability. A modified schedule, and the introduction of band and choir in fifth-grade, prepare students for middle school. *See pages 10-11.*



Orono Middle School • 6-7-8

Orono Middle School provides a safe and caring environment where all students are empowered and challenged to explore topics and disciplines, reach their full potential, and become lifelong learners and contributing citizens. Students and staff focus on self-reflection and critical thinking to develop engaged learners. *See pages 12-13.*



Orono High School • 9-10-11-12

Orono High School has a strong tradition of excellence, rooted in rigorous comprehensive curriculum. A tight-knit, one-high-school community provides a small-school feel and support with large-school opportunities. OHS is continually top-ranked in the state and nation. We are proud of our engaged student body, where 70 percent earn a passing score on at least one AP exam and 85 percent participate in activities and athletics. *See pages 14-15.*

ORONO CAMPUS



Campus Facilities

The central campus is also home to the **Orono Activities Center** (opened in 2019 with memberships available to the community), a swimming pool and the **Morrison Ice Arena**. The **Oliver Grieb Abbott Environmental Learning Center** also includes the Orono Rotary Learning Pavilion for outdoor science and environmental education classes.

Pesonen Stadium, multiple tennis courts, four campus gymnasiums, two auditoriums and ample fields for football, soccer, baseball, softball and other outdoor recreation provide the setting for athletic and co-curricular activities.



Discovery Center • Early Learning, Youth and Adult Programs

The Discovery Center in nearby Maple Plain is the hub for the Orono Community Education **Early Learning** and **Preschool** programs. This location is also home to activities and courses for community members of all ages.

The unique, K-2 structure allows staff and administrators to focus on the developmental needs of early learners.



GRADES K-2 ORONO SCHUMANN ELEMENTARY

Relationships and Community

A hallmark of our district and character program is the focus on strong relationships: teacher to student, peer to peer, and school to home. We will work together to give your child the best school experience possible. As a small district, we offer an environment where students are together in one building, grouped by grade level. Lifelong friendships often begin here!

Social Emotional Growth

Here at Orono Schumann Elementary, we weave social emotional teaching throughout our academic endeavors. Among our many goals, we help our students develop healthy identities, manage emotions, demonstrate empathy for others and make good decisions. Every child benefits from this integrated approach.



Reading, Writing, Phonics and Social Studies

Building a strong foundation in literacy is at the center of our early elementary program. We meet incoming students where they are and build on reading, writing, and phonics skills from there. Beginning social studies concepts (history, geography, civics and economics) are introduced and woven into the language arts curriculum.

Mathematics and Science

In our math and science instruction, we pair concepts (“why”) and processes (“how-to”) with real-world lessons to help students connect what they learn to the world around them. When students understand *meaning*, they are able to master concepts and solve more complex problems.

Specials

In Orono Schools, children are introduced to enriching curriculum each week—called “Specials”—beginning in Kindergarten. Students experience engaging lessons and build relationships with other trusted educators in the school. Specials include:

- Art
- Library/media
- Music
- Spanish language and culture
- Physical Education (twice weekly)

✉ SEInfo@orono.k12.mn.us

☎ 952-449-8480

Teachers and staff at Orono Schumann Elementary work diligently to get to know your child and partner with you to during these years of rapid academic, social and emotional growth.

Thinking Skills

Orono Schools offers a continuum of gifted and talented programming K-12. All students at Orono Schumann Elementary benefit from a unique "Thinking Skills" curriculum, delivered by the Orono Challenge teacher, who brings expertise in gifted-and-talented programming. By delivering these lessons to our youngest learners, we teach valuable critical thinking skills to all, while gaining an early look into the academic needs of the student body.

Technology Tools

In the classroom, students have 1:1 access to iPads where they can practice academic fundamentals through age-appropriate software applications. Teachers use Seesaw to showcase a student's work and communicate lessons and learning objectives with families.

Support

It is our job to know your child and work closely with you to determine when supports are needed. In addition to academic intervention, the district employs a school psychologist and social worker for our young learners.

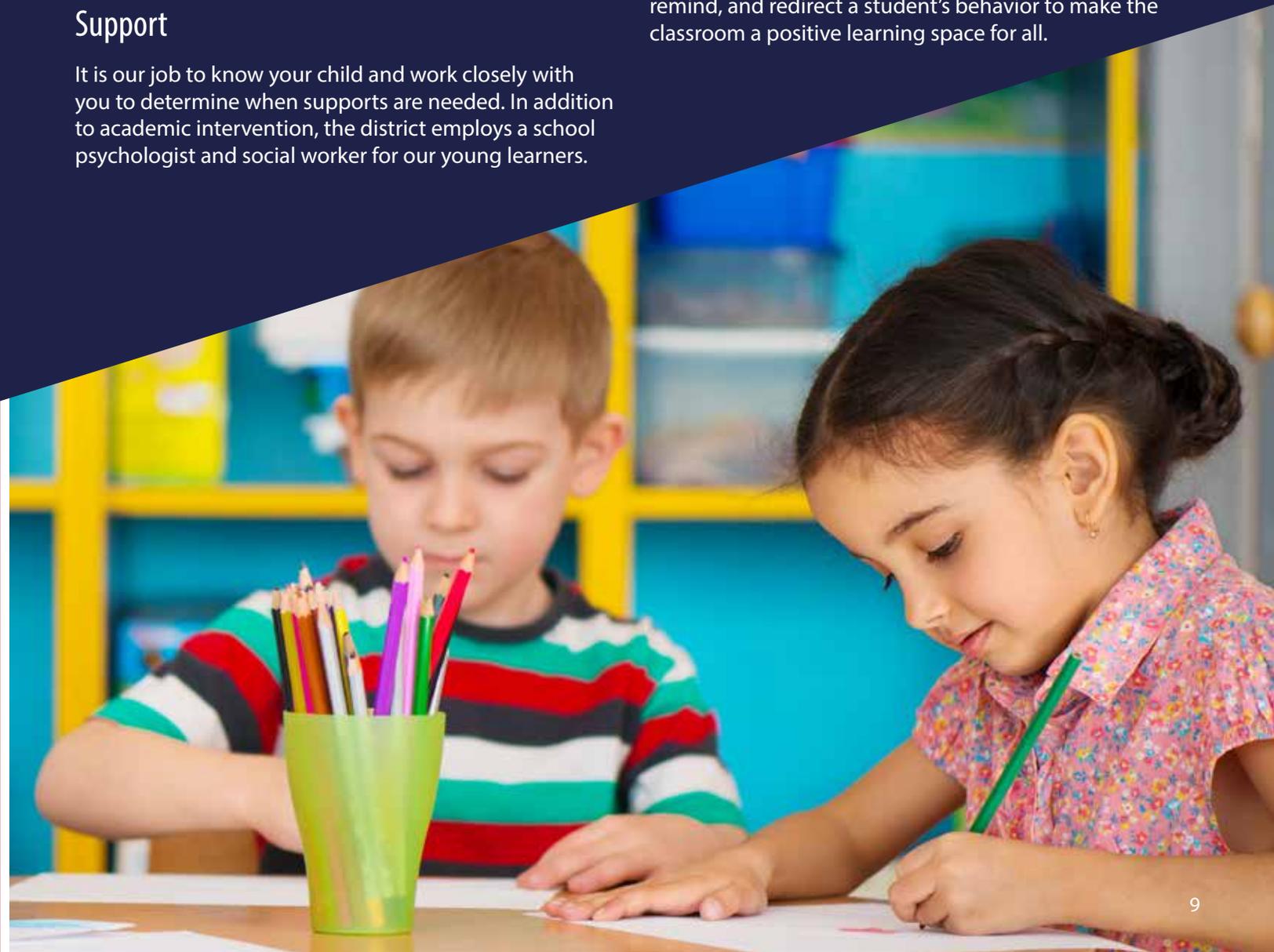
Fostering Independence

When students begin their school journey, they need a lot of assistance and reminders. This is normal and we're here to help! By establishing classroom routines, setting expectations, and providing nurturing guidance, students quickly grow in independence and self confidence.

Time to be a Kid

Recess, lunch, movement breaks, singing, and dancing give students time during the academic day to have fun, socialize with peers, and just be a kid.

At Orono Schumann Elementary we use the Responsive Classroom approach to classroom management. Students are taught a common classroom language (making good choices, highlighting a positive effort) that builds on the strengths of all students. Teachers are trained to reinforce, remind, and redirect a student's behavior to make the classroom a positive learning space for all.



All classmates are together in one school, which strengthens community-building and fosters a unique bond between students. This makes Orono special.



GRADES 3-5 ORONO INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Strengthening the Foundation

As students progress into the later elementary years, they bring a growing need for more responsibility. Our Intermediate School program builds on every child's academic foundation, adding opportunities to personalize learning and explore topics of interest in English, social studies, math and science. As students develop a greater sense of self, they are able to ask and answer more open-ended questions.

Growing Independence

Students' pursuit of independence in grades 3-5 can be satisfied in ways both big and small. Classroom "jobs," independent study time and project-based choices all provide opportunities for self-management and leadership. To prepare for middle school, our fifth-graders have a different morning and afternoon teacher (presenting consistent content areas) and may move independently through the building to band, choir, and other pull-out opportunities.



Exploring Language Arts and Social Studies

We continue to instill a love for reading through our comprehensive literacy program that layers teacher-led reading and discussion; small-group work; leveled, independent reading; and phonics lessons through Souday Essentials. Reading for *meaning* is an important goal as our students engage in deeper texts.

Personalization takes center stage in our writing and social studies curriculum, highlighted by choice-based research projects and exploration of writing themes like *persuasion* and *point of view*.

The beginning study of geography, history, economics and citizenship helps students explore their place in the world and see how we are all globally connected.

Mastering Math and Science – Concepts and Process

Students learn through an intentional progression of mathematical concepts through the Everyday Math and Singapore Math curricula. Teachers focus on math concepts—the *why*—and then teach mathematical processes—the *how*—for solving problems.

The same approach is applied to science and other STEM topics where students engage in relevant and integrated learning experiences to make connections between school and the world around them. Students build a strong foundation of true understanding that results in long-term retention.

✉ ISInfo@orono.k12.mn.us

☎ 952-449-8470

Intermediate School teachers and staff help children explore emerging interests through personalized learning, and the introduction of band or choir in fifth grade.

Enrichment

Challenge programming. The district provides gifted and talented services for students who demonstrate the need to accelerate their learning. The continuum of programming in grades 3-5 is provided through small group clustering and engagement through push-in (classroom-based) and pull-out (individual or small group) experiences.

Specials and fifth-grade music options. Teachers with special expertise and licensure in art, music and physical education deliver engaging curriculum throughout the week. Students in fifth-grade have their first opportunity to choose instruction in band or choir.

Spanish language. Exploration of Spanish language and culture continues for all students. Our goal is to build interest year after year so that students will be motivated to pursue world language courses in grades 6-12.

Leadership development. The district's character program evolves at the Intermediate School through Character Council, a student-led effort that makes the Six Pillars of Character come alive in the building. To be selected, interested students must apply, secure a staff recommendation, and demonstrate that they embody the Six Pillars in their daily life.

Support and Interventions

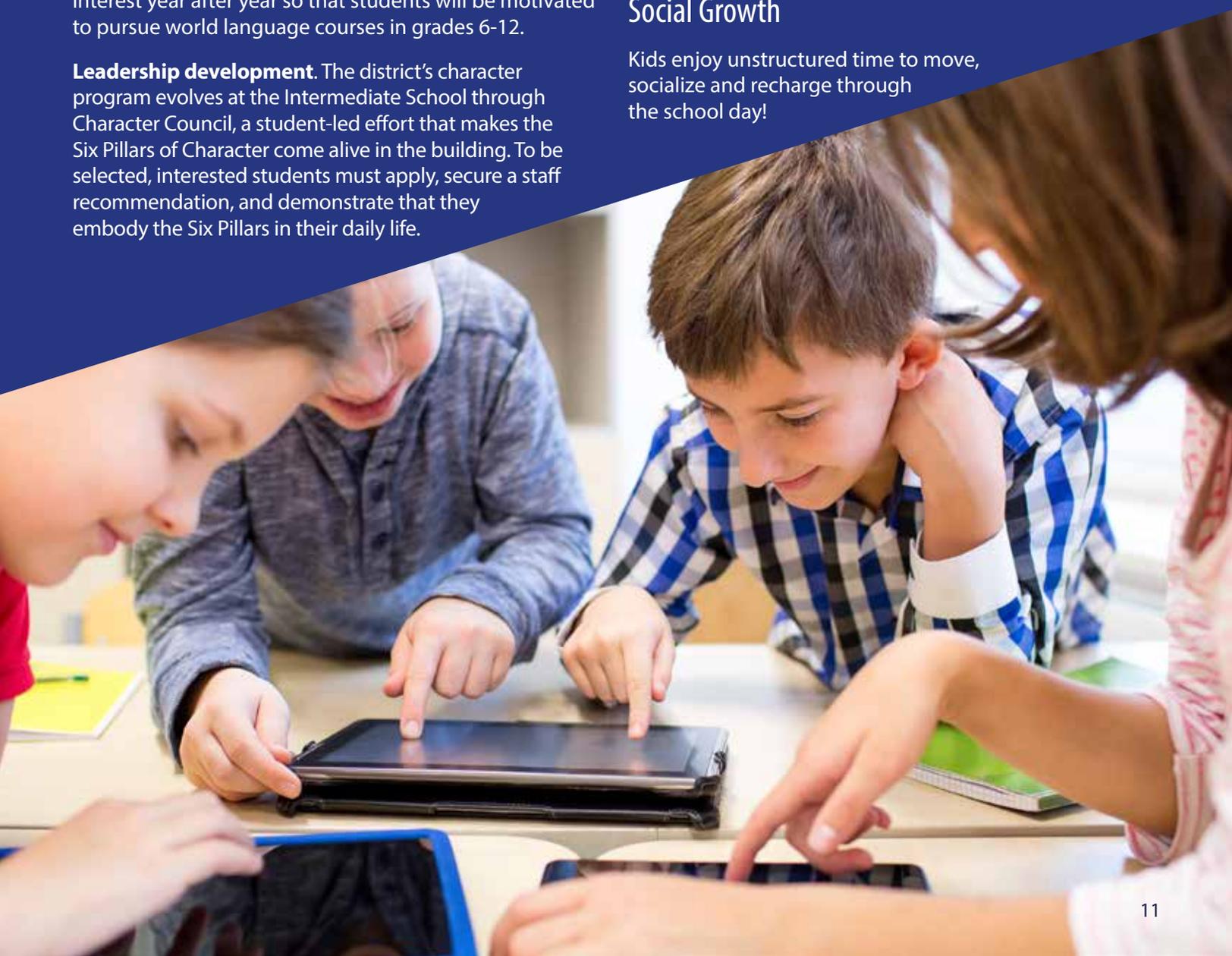
During this period of rapid growth and change, students may need intervention from our support team. We work closely with families to develop individual strategies that can be supported and reinforced at home.

Students may engage with our literacy interventionist, Challenge teacher, social worker, school psychologist or behaviorist.

WIN (What I Need) Time is offered to students in grades 3-5 to gain the support they need to master core curriculum. In grades 3-4, WIN time is 30 minutes per day; in grade 5, students have two, 30-minute sessions to take advantage of new "specials" in band or choir. The IS band teacher also offers small-group lessons during WIN time.

Social Growth

Kids enjoy unstructured time to move, socialize and recharge through the school day!





GRADES 6-8 ORONO MIDDLE SCHOOL

Student life at Orono Middle School (OMS) is all about *discovery*. Students benefit from a varied curriculum that provides exposure to many topics. Caring staff love the middle school age group and provide support every step of the way.

OMS Houses

The OMS building was carefully designed to provide a supportive environment for students at this developmental level. Grade-level Houses are designated on floors one and two with an “Up” and “Down” House for each grade. These smaller learning communities foster student camaraderie, teacher teaming, interdisciplinary activities, and a supportive environment for mastering curriculum in English, math, science and social studies.

Instructional Match in English and Math

At OMS, we recognize the importance of *instructional match* and provide the appropriate rigor and support for students in English/language arts and math. The district also has a Gifted & Talented Coordinator for grades 6-12 and a full-time guidance counselor who work to support the academic needs of OMS students.

Exploratories

Orono offers a set of *exploratory courses* in topics such as world language, technology, vocal and instrumental music, performing arts, fine arts, health and more. Through this curriculum, *all* students engage in hands-on, meaningful experiences that can uncover unique talents and interests. This period of discovery helps students select electives in high school and focus on enriching activities in their free time.

In seventh-grade, students take a language and culture course that provides broad exposure and helps identify a preferred language pathway for eighth-grade and beyond. In alignment with Orono High School, OMS offers Chinese, German and Spanish courses.

Outdoor Learning

OMS students have access to beautiful outdoor learning spaces that support the life science curriculum. Just beyond the OMS building lies a diverse nature area that includes woodlands and a pond. Across the street is the Oliver Grieb Abbott Environmental Learning Center providing additional opportunities for hands-on learning.

✉ MSInfo@orono.k12.mn.us

☎ 952-449-8450



BALANCE

Middle school students also benefit from involvement in athletics and enrichment activities outside the classroom. Through Orono Community Education, students participate in middle school sports, performing arts, academic tutoring and other positive experiences. They develop deep friendships and important life skills—like teamwork and time management—that often translate to stronger academic outcomes.

SUPPORT

Middle school is a period of great change. OMS has a full-time school counselor on staff in addition to a social worker, school psychologist and our Gifted & Talented Coordinator. The district is always ready to refer students and families to community-based supports, if needed.

The eighth-grade Academic Planning course leads students through an interest inventory, budgeting and other life skills. A key component is a spring tour of Orono High School and a planning meeting with an OHS counselor to map a four-year academic plan with appropriate rigor.



LEADERSHIP & FRIENDSHIP

Opportunities to Stand Out

The WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) program is a leadership-development opportunity for eighth-graders who demonstrate sincerity, courteous behavior, accountability and strong ethics. WEB Leaders receive small-group training and host sixth-grade orientation in late summer. They work with incoming sixth-graders and new students enrolling at OMS. There are also opportunities to give school tours and become student mentors.

Let's Meet!

Peer relationships are so important during the middle years and OMS has many busy hubs around the building where students meet. The Media Center is always busy in the morning and kids eat together in the OMS cafeteria. Our Up and Down Houses each have a central square where teachers and students greet each other informally before class.



GRADES 9-12 ORONO HIGH SCHOOL

High School: Your Chance for Exploration

Orono High School (OHS) provides a unique, small school environment with the breadth of choice offered in larger schools. At OHS, it's about exploration—and preparation—for all that lies ahead after high school.

Enriched Courses, Advanced Placement and Project Lead the Way (PLTW)

OHS has a vibrant advanced learning program for students seeking a challenge. OHS offers 13 enriched courses and more than 20 Advanced Placement (AP) courses, including Seminar and Research, the two courses required to earn the AP Capstone Diploma. More than 70 percent of OHS students complete an AP course and pass the exam as part of their high school journey.

Project Lead the Way pre-engineering courses give students the chance to explore engineering topics and hands-on projects with the potential to earn college credit.

Visit oronoschools.org/profile for important Orono High School statistics

Did you know? ➔

Options within Core Courses

English, math, science and social studies are not “one size fits all” in Orono. The Course Catalog outlines a myriad of choices and rigor as students move through grades 9-12.

Blended Course Offerings

OHS is proud to offer a selection of courses that offer a blend of structured class time and flexible learning time. Students will work closely with their instructor, independently and collaboratively in small groups. Students help set the path, place and pace of their learning to build the self-discipline, resilience and independence required for college and career settings.

GOALS

We see our students. At OHS, it's the goal of every faculty member to *really know* each student and build strong relationships. Our small size makes that possible!

We hear our students. By honoring student voice, we help students gain authentic leadership experience, partner with adults and work toward common building goals.

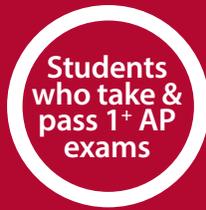
We support our students. Teachers, counselors and support staff make it a goal to be accessible and provide supports that help students work through challenges and achieve their goals.

We encourage our students. At OHS, students can choose from a wide range of athletics, arts, activities and other enrichment opportunities that make high school memorable. We believe in the power of belonging—through friendship, teamwork and school pride—through all four years of high school.

We believe in our students! Orono graduates are prepared to set a course, follow their path, and find success in a complex and rapidly changing world.



22 opportunities



70% by senior year



4 courses



91% enrolled



85% participation

World Languages

Get a view of the world through language and culture courses in Chinese, German or Spanish (including AP).

Fine Arts and Music

Hundreds of OHS students bring their artistic passions to band, choir, music, drama, media arts, drawing, painting, ceramics and more.

Senior Spartan Experience

This culminating career-development project gives seniors an interactive learning experience that connects high school learning to post-secondary aspirations.

 HSInfo@oronok12.mn.us

 952-449-8400





ENROLLING YOUR CHILD

Instructions & Timeline

www.oronoschools.org/enroll

January

R District Office (DO) mails Address Verification Form to resident families. Families return form and supporting documents to DO as soon as possible.

OE **January 15** – Final date to download and submit state OE application to the District Office (one application needed for each child).

February

R Schumann Elementary sends registration packet with additional forms to families with completed address verification forms. Watch for parent meeting info.

OE By **January 30** – District notifies OE families of approval/wait list. If approved, confirmation is required before registration packet and parent meeting info are sent.

March

R Return registration packet forms and supporting materials as soon as possible.

OE If enrolling, return registration packet forms and supporting materials as soon as possible.

R Resident

OE Open Enrollment

In-District/Resident Enrollment

Welcome! Parents or legal guardians of children residing within the Orono School District Boundary Map can begin the registration process by requesting an Address Verification Form at enrollment@orono.k12.mn.us.

Families should submit the completed form with one of the following verification documents:

- a copy of their lease/rental agreement *or*
- settlement statement from closing on the purchase of a home *or*
- a current utility bill that shows the parent/guardian name at the in-district address

Following address verification, the district will provide additional forms and instructions needed to complete enrollment.

Out-of-District/Open Enrollment

Orono Schools also welcomes students through the Statewide Enrollment Options program, also known as "open enrollment." This program gives students the opportunity to apply for enrollment in a school outside their resident district boundaries.

The state has set an open enrollment application deadline of January 15 each year. After the deadline, open enrollment applications will be placed on a waiting list. Students will be invited to enroll in Orono Schools on a space-available basis.

oronoschools.org/enroll

Late August

ALL Enrolled students will receive their teacher assignment via ParentVUE, bus information, Kindergarten Orientation information, and school supply list.

September

ALL Grades 1-12 typically start school on the Tuesday after Labor Day with Kindergarten students beginning the Wednesday after Labor Day. However, start dates are subject to change.

The school year summary calendar provides exact dates.

More to Know



Open Enrollment application
oronoschools.org/enroll

District calendars
oronoschools.org/calendars

Maps and directions
oronoschools.org/map

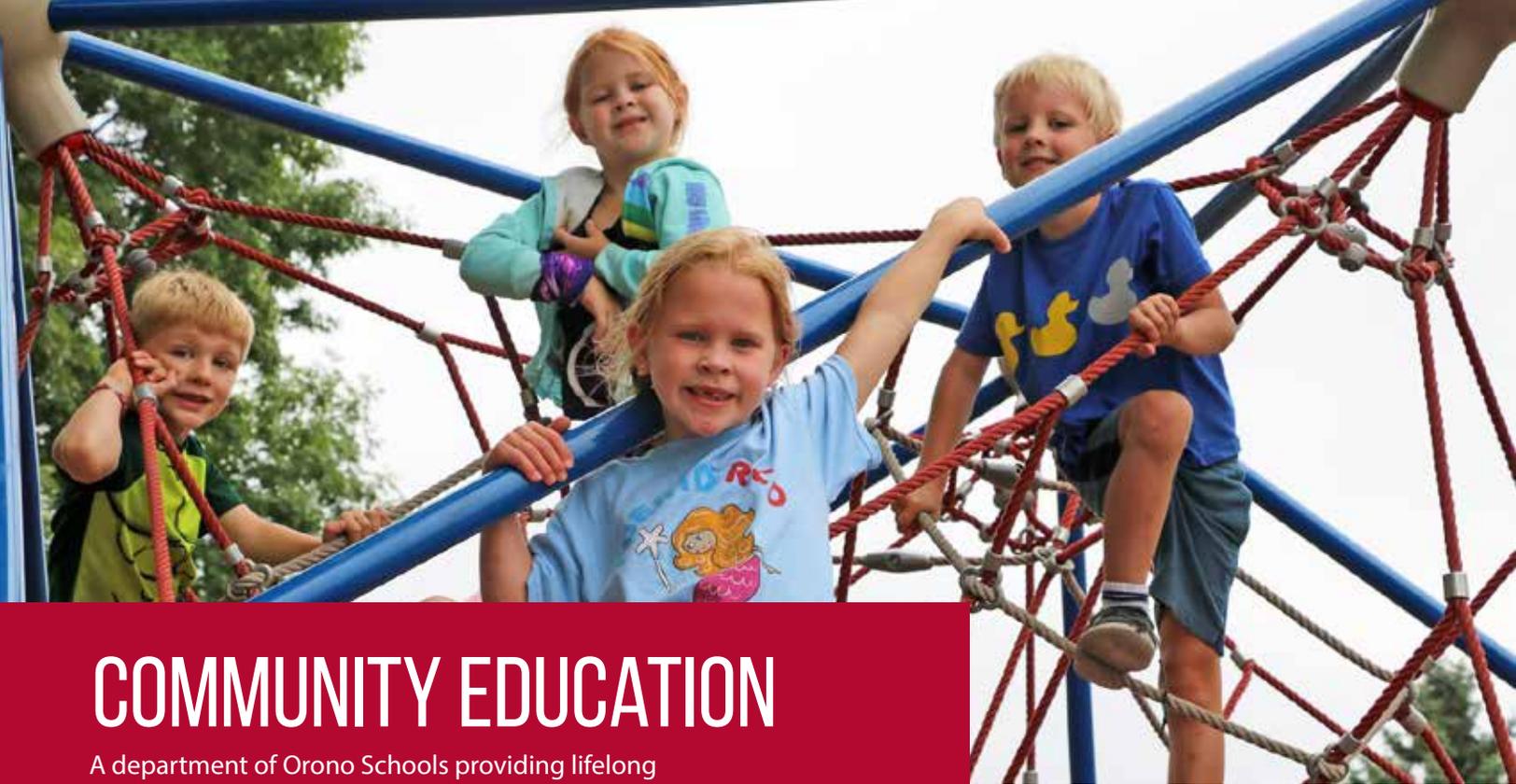
Questions?



enrollment@orono.k12.mn.us



952-449-8300



COMMUNITY EDUCATION

A department of Orono Schools providing lifelong learning opportunities, programs and support services for people of all ages.



Youth Programs

Opportunities for youth grades K-12 in a variety of interests and topic areas. Our extensive summer program includes 300+ camps and classes.

- Enrichment Classes & Youth Sports
- Mentoring & Academic Support
- Aquatics
- Performing Arts
- Middle School & High School Club Sports
- Driver's Education



Adult Programs

Classes and programs offered year-round in a variety of topic areas to keep adults active and connected in body and mind!

- Fitness & Recreation
- Special Interest & Hobbies
- Creative Arts
- Cooking
- Aquatics
- Adult Basic Education

Orono Community Education enhances learning and quality of life in our area through a wide array of programs and services. Collaborative partnerships and community volunteers help Community Education support student and families.

Brochures are distributed three times a year.

Fall – available in August

Winter/Spring – available in December

Summer – available in March



Early Learning

Where our youngest Spartans get their start in Orono Schools. A nationally accredited program with licensed teachers and a highly rated curriculum.

Child Care

Discovery Kids – 16 months-PreK

Spartan Kids – Grades K-5

Early Childhood Family Education

A program designed to support and strengthen families as they care for and nurture young children. Parent-child classes offered starting at birth.

Preschool

Minnesota Department of Education School Readiness program for ages 3-5.
Practice Preschool available at age 2 ½.
Two-, three- or four-day per week options.

Early Childhood Screening

A free child screening required prior to Kindergarten enrollment. Ideally, between ages 3-4. Email ecscreening@orono.k12.mn.us

Discovery Kids

Nationally accredited, 4-star Parent Aware, licensed child care program with embedded preschool curriculum. Offered year-round at the Discovery Center in Maple Plain.

Spartan Kids

School Year & Summer Care

School-age child care program offered before and after school and full-day during the summer. Care is also available on most non-school days for contracted families. Summer care includes participation in enrichment camps and classes.





Orono Public Schools, ISD #278

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www.aronoschools.org | 952-449-8300

ORONO SCHOOLS SMALL IN SIZE... BIG IN ACHIEVEMENT!

