



OWATONNA ONLINE 6TH-8TH GRADE NEWSLETTER

SUMMER EDITION AUGUST 2022




Hello!

My name is Ann Mikkalson and I am excited to reach out as Owatonna Online's Kindergarten-8th Grade Director for the 2022-2023 School Year! I will be taking the place of Erin Halverson for our middle school program. I have been involved with both Distance Learning and Owatonna Online as our students have been learning virtually for the past two years. I work out of the District Office for Owatonna Public Schools and support different areas of teaching and learning from Kindergarten all the way through 12th Grade. I look forward to working more closely with your families and our Owatonna Online teaching team!




Feel free to reach out and connect! My email address is amikkalson@isd761.org or I can be reached by phone at 507-444-8676. I look forward to a great year ahead with you and your learners!

As we look ahead to the 2022-2023 School Year, we'd love to start an Owatonna Online Middle School Parent Advisory! If this is something you'd be interested in being a part of, please reach out to me via email or phone.



August 30, 2022 is our first day of school for
the 2022-2023 school year!





OWATONNA ONLINE MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Change in Learning Platform

We will be making a change in our learning platform for the 22-23 school year. We are excited to announce that we will be switching from Edgenuity to Pearson Connexus. Different platforms were reviewed this past spring based on your feedback. Our review team felt this would be a great fit for our learners. Virtual training for Learning Coaches and students will be held on Monday, August 22nd from 1-2pm.



Device Pick-Up


Students new to Owatonna Online will receive a school-issued Chromebook for use throughout the school year. Our device pick-up date will be Monday, August 18th from 8am-4pm. Please plan to pick up your student's device at our Learning Zone location at 667 E Vine St, Owatonna during those hours. If those hours don't work for you, please reach out to Ann Mikkalson at amikkalson@isd761.org to arrange another time.

***This is also the date and timeframe for students to pickup devices that may have returned last year.



Important Dates:

August 18th (8am-4pm): Device Pick-Up (if needed)
August 22nd (1-2pm): Pearson Connexus Training





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Ready for Learning


Being set up for learning is a key part of your students' success! As we look ahead to the start of the year, be sure to think through the structures you'll have in place to ensure your learner has what they need to do their best each day. How will your learner plan to have their Chromebook charged and ready each day? Where will their designated space be for your learner? Do you have high speed internet to minimize disruptions in their online work? Each of these play an important role in learning online.

Attendance Reminders




Daily requirement: Students will be required to check into infinite campus each day to be counted as present. Please review this [document](#) for further instructions.

If you will be absent from school, please contact our attendance line at 507-444-8012 or email: mcaballero2@isd761.org before 3:00pm. Owatonna Online reserves the right to request documentation for any absence and requires medical documentation for all absences longer than three days.

For a complete list of our attendance information and policies, please see the Owatonna Online Handbook (Grades 6-12.)



Be sure to review the
Owatonna Online 6-8th Grade Handbook



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School Supplies

We recommend that the following items are available to support your learner in their online assignments:

- Notebook
- Pencils
- Pens
- Scissors
- Glue
- Colored pencils
- Headphones
- TI-30XS Multiview Calculator (optional)

**May be additional requirements dependent on elective choices

There are very few consumable materials required for courses in Pearson Connexus. If you are enrolled in a course that does require materials of this type, they will be mailed to you directly from Pearson.

6th Grade: Ruben Alvarez	English: Jamie Jennissen Liz Charlton
Math: Emily Haskins	Science Ray Heinz
Social Studies : Sarah Hunst	Phy Ed: Zach Waletich
Science: Ray Heinz	English Language: Jen Lopez

6th-8th Grade Staff

Information will be coming your way in regards to contact, office hours, and more from this awesome team!

We're looking forward to a great year!