



Informational Brochure

OLENTANGY BERKSHIRE
MIDDLE SCHOOL

Carla Baker—Principal

Carla_Baker@olsd.us

Eric Bidlack—Assistant Principal

Eric_Bidlack@olsd.us

Morgan Nagel—Assistant Principal

Morgan_Nagel@olsd.us

Dana Yochum—School Counselor (A-G)

Dana_Yochum@olsd.us

Mike Vyrostek—School Counselor (H-P)

Michael_Vyrostek@olsd.us

Drew Rock—School Counselor (Q-Z)

Andrew_Rock@olsd.us

2869 S. Three B's & K Road

Galena, OH 43021

Phone: 740-657-5200

Fax: 740-657-5299

Attendance Hotline:

740-657-5230

Athletics

Fall Sports	Winter Sports	Spring Sports
◆ 7th Grade Football	◆ 7th Grade Boys Basketball	◆ 7th Grade Baseball
◆ 8th Grade Football	◆ 8th Grade Boys Basketball	◆ 8th Grade Baseball
◆ Cross Country - Boys/Girls	◆ 7th Grade Girls Basketball	◆ 7th Grade Softball
◆ 7th Grade Girls Volleyball	◆ 8th Grade Girls Basketball	◆ 8th Grade Softball
◆ 8th Grade Girls Volleyball	◆ Wrestling	◆ Boys Lacrosse
◆ Golf	◆ Cheerleading	◆ Girls Lacrosse
◆ Cheerleading		◆ Boys/Girls Track & Field

Visit our website for more detailed information:
<https://obms.olen tangy.k12.oh.us/>

Extra-Curricular Activities

Battle of the Books	Dungeons and	Sentinel Legacy Squad
Berkshire Beacon	Invention League	Ski Club
Berkshire Buddy	Math Counts	WEB Leaders
Berkshire Strong	Model United Nations	We Are United:
Board Games	Robotics	Winter Fitness
Drama Club	ROX	Yearbook

Yearly Trips

Washington D.C. Trip

OBMS ventures to Washington D.C. with our 8th grade students. This trip usually takes place in November. Contact OBMS Office for details on this trip or visit:

The Nuts and Bolts of Middle School Students

Your student is now a middle school student! Your student will experience many changes through these short 3 years! See below for some helpful information when dealing with your student and their ever-changing life.

Stress Relieving Strategies	Stress is an inevitable part of life. How we deal with stress determines the number of physical and mental symptoms we incur because of it. By discussing stressors, students can come up with coping mechanisms for dealing with stress. Good coping mechanisms includes, listening to music, journaling, exercise, talking to a good friend, playing video games, and more.
Test Taking Preparation & Strategies	Often times, students who "cram" the night before a test will experience poor test scores and anxiety when taking the test. Creating an organized plan for study time will help students perform better on tests and have less anxiety when taking a test.
Being an advocate	One of the most important lessons a middle school student needs to learn is how to advocate for his/herself. If your student needs assistance, it is important that he/she knows who to go to for help and how to ask for help.
Friendships	Friends are very important at this point in your student's life. Friendships can also be a very stressful factor in your student's life, as well. Remind your student that a friend is someone who makes them feel good about themselves and to be aware of the choices your student is making.

Middle School Terminology

Team	In the 6th, 7th & 8th grade your student will be placed on a team at OBMS. There are three to four teachers to a team that each student on the team will have throughout the day.
Core Classes	6 & 7 grade have 4 core classes: Integrated English, Science, Social Studies, and Math. 8th grade has 5 core classes: IELE, Science, American History, Math, and Study Hall.
Unified Arts (UA)	Your student may have required UA courses each year. Band, choir, and strings is also considered a UA. Students typically have two UA periods every day.
UA 6 week Rotation	There are 6 SIX week rotations throughout the year. Each 6 weeks, your student will change to a different UA class.
How do I see my School	Students should ask their teacher for a pass to see the counselor, if an emergency. Students can stop in the guidance office in between periods & sign in to see counselor & return to class. They will call the student down during a Study Hall or UA.
Student Access	MyOLSD is a single sign-on website that gives each student access to Schoology, PowerSchool, and Google Drive without entering usernames and passwords each time. Schoology is a website where students can access classroom information, turn in assignments, email teachers, and find important details on classroom activities. This is also where you can find homework calendars, class information and other teachers information. You can access Schoology through your my OLSD account Power School is where students can find current schedules. Google Docs is sometimes used by students when they are asked to complete and submit assignments/documents. Contact your school counselor for log-in information.
Parent Access	PowerSchool is a website where parents can access students grades, schedules, transportation information, student fee and lunch account details, and attendance. Schoology can also be used by parents to monitor student courses, class materials, course calendar and online assignments and submissions. To access both of these tools, visit the district website at Olentangy.k12.us and then select Parent Resources . You will need a school assigned Access ID and Access Password to link your children to your PowerSchool account. Please contact each individual child's school to obtain these codes.

Q & A

Q: How do I access my student's grades online?

A: PowerSchool is where you can check your student's immediate and current grades in classes. Log-in information for this program can be obtained by contacting OBMS school counselor/office.

Q: Who is my student's school counselor? How do I get in touch with them?

A: We have three counselors at OBMS. Dana Yochum has students with the last names starting with A-G, Mike Vyrastek has students with the last names starting with H-P and Drew Rock has students last names Q-Z.

You can email or call your student's counselor.

Dana_yochum@olsd.us or 740-657-5217,

Michael_vyrastek@olsd.us or 740-657-5216

Andrew_rock@olsd.us or 740-657-5211

Q: What is the Berkshire Bulletin?

A: The Berkshire Bulletin is a communication piece which is emailed to parents on a weekly basis. The Berkshire Bulletin is helpful for parents, to find information about upcoming events and detailed information about sports and activities. Berkshire Bulletin is sent to parents email. If you are not receiving the bulletin, check your "Contact Information" in PowerSchool.

Q: What is the Lantern Post?

A: The Lantern Post is located outside the office on the wall going up towards the 6th grade house. You can find extra forms for school in the Lantern Post containers and also find PTO information in the Lantern Posts.

Q: How does my student sign up for sports?

A: Watch the Berkshire Bulletin for information on upcoming try-outs. 7 & 8 grade students may participate in school sponsored sports. Generally, sports teams will hold "open gyms" for athletes before try-outs so athletes have an opportunity to experience the sport before participating in try-outs.

Q: What forms need to be turned in before participating in open gym or try-outs?

A: An updated physical form must be on file at OBMS. Emergency Medical information and other online forms must be completed on FinalForms before a student can participate in any after school physical activity. You may contact Marianne Bruening, our Sports and School Counselor Secretary, at 740-657-5206 or Marianne_bruening@olsd.us

Q & A—continued

Q: How do I notify the school my child will be absent from school?

A: Call the Attendance line as soon as possible the morning of the absence. If it is a planned absence, have your child bring a note from the parent explaining the absence. Please call: 740-657-5230 to report a student absent.

Q: Do I need to bring a note from my doctor if my student is absent due to an appointment?

A: Yes. You will need to provide a note from your doctor/dentist if your student misses school due to an appointment. If we don't receive a note from the doctor, the absence will be considered "unexcused".

Q: What if my child will be riding the bus home with a friend after school?

A: You will need to provide a note that includes the bus number and address of the student they will be riding home with. This must be a note from a parent that the student brings to the front office first thing in the morning. The student will then pick up their bus pass right after school to provide to the bus driver. Only notes are permitted. We will not accept an email or a phone call from a parent.

Q: What is PowerSchool and Schoology

A: Olentangy provides parents with access to two online tools to view student information: **PowerSchool and Schoology**. To access each of the tools, you may visit the district website at Olentangy.k12.oh.us and then select **Parent Resources**. You will need a school assigned Access ID and Access Password to link your children to your PowerSchool account. Please contact the OBMS school Counselor/Office.

Q: How do I pay school fees and athletic Pay-to-Play fees?

A: All fees are paid in PowerSchool through the parents PowerSchool account.

Q: How do I put money on my students lunch account?

A: This too will be completed in PowerSchool using the parents PowerSchool account.