

**OWL WEEKLY EMAIL**  
**OCTOBER 31, 2022**

*In an effort to increase communication with our students and families, we send a weekly email on Sunday evenings or Monday mornings highlighting upcoming school events. This information will also be shared with students in Schoology and in Crew on Mondays. Events are listed in chronological order.*

**NEW! No EDL/Flipside on Monday 10/31:** All Flipside and EDL activities are canceled for Monday, October 31st. Also, there will be no afterschool activities on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> on the Digital Learning Day/Election Day. Questions? Please contact [Preston.West@spps.org](mailto:Preston.West@spps.org) or [Brient.Pokornowski@spps.org](mailto:Brient.Pokornowski@spps.org)

**NEW! Clubs this Wednesday, November 2 during Crew:**

High School GSA Go to Preston's room

Middle School SLAC members: Go to the library

Drama Club: Go to the Theatre

Environmental Club: Go to Joanna's room

**NEW! Virtual Learning Day:** On Tuesday, November 8 (Election Day), OWL will have a virtual learning day. More information on our plan for this day is being sent to families.

**NEW! Quarter 1 ends on Friday, November 11:** Be sure to complete all work!

**NEW! Picture re-takes will be Thursday, November 9:** If you did not get your picture taken yet, or if you do not like your first photo, be ready to smile on November 9.

**NEW! November OWL Community Group Meeting:** Tuesday, November 15 from 6:30 – 8 PM.

**NEW! Prospective Family Showcase is Thursday, November 17 from 6:30 – 8PM:** If you have family, friends or neighbors who are looking for a secondary school, invite them to this evening event. Tours and shadowing experiences during the school day will begin to be held in the days following this showcase. More information at [open.spps.org](http://open.spps.org) or contact Tim: [timothy.leone-getten@spps.org](mailto:timothy.leone-getten@spps.org)

**NEW! Staff Professional Development Day:** No School on Friday, November 18

**NEW! Thanksgiving Break:** No School on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25.

**NEW! Student-Led Conferences:** Wednesday, November 30 and Thursday, December 1. You will make a 20 minute appointment with your student's Crew leader.

**NEW! Winter Sports Registration:** It is time to sign up for winter sports. Here are the winter sports:

Wrestling (co-ed)	MS and HS	Humboldt
Girls and Boys Basketball	MS and HS	Humboldt
Boys Swimming	Grades 7-12	Humboldt
Nordic (Cross Country Skiing)	Grades 7-12	Central
Alpine (Downhill) Skiing	Grades 7-12	All SPPS (see below)
Boys Hockey	Grades 9-12	Johnson
Girls Hockey	Grades 9-12	All SPPS

- You can find the Humboldt winter sports registration form on the [Humboldt one-stop form for athletic information!](#)
- For more information about Winter sports and how to sign up, contact OWL Athletic Director Damon [damon.liberatore@spps.org](mailto:damon.liberatore@spps.org)

**THIS WEEK! Do you enjoy downhill skiing? Join the St. Paul Alpine Ski Team (SPAST)!** The team is open to SPPS students in grades 7-12. While some alpine skiing experience is necessary, racing experience is **not** required. The team practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Afton Alps. Bussing is provided and departs from Central High School. Want to learn more? Join us on Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. for a virtual meeting. To have the link emailed to you directly, Fill out [this form](#). Questions, email [annekettler@yahoo.com](mailto:annekettler@yahoo.com).

**NEW! If you have a student who is questioning their gender identity or sexual orientation,** and need assistance connecting to

resources at school or outside of school, please contact the School Social Workers:

Paige: [paige.geck@spps.org](mailto:paige.geck@spps.org) (651)-744-2349

Michelle: [michelle.romano@spps.org](mailto:michelle.romano@spps.org) (651)-744-3398

**NEW! Finding my Voice: A Teen Empowerment Group**

Ages: 14-18 years old (must be enrolled in high school, no post high school 18-year-olds)

Date and Time: **Tuesdays from 4:30pm-6pm Starting on November 15<sup>th</sup>**

Description: This support group is designed to help teens discover their true selves and build up confidence in their identity. Group members will support each other as they learn about topics they are interested in, such as self-esteem, healthy relationships, body image, and physical and emotional wellness. Teens will discover their strengths and learn to advocate for themselves through group activities, art projects, and discussion.

**Contact Meg Sutter, MSW, LGSW for more information and registration. [MHGroups@face2face.org](mailto:MHGroups@face2face.org) 651-772-5593**

**NEW! Death and Grief Support Group:**

Ages: 18-25 years old

Dates and Times: **Mondays from 4:30-6pm starting on November 14<sup>th</sup>**

Description: This support group is for folks who have experienced recent loss or bereavement. Sessions will focus on topics related to grief reactions and experiences after a death. Groups will consist of 10 members maximum

Contact Alex Giesen, MSW, LGSW for more information and registration [MHGroups@face2face.org](mailto:MHGroups@face2face.org) 651-772-5593

**Time to Order your OWL Yearbook 2022-2023:** Use [THIS LINK](#) to order your very own yearbook. 10% off if you order before October 31.

**Sign up to be tutored--6th-10th graders:** If you're looking for some help with your classes, sign up to work with an older student tutor during **Thursday crew academic days!** There are also tutors available to work with **after school** and **busing available on Tuesdays and Thursdays.** Many of our tutors have taken the same classes you're taking, and they can help you with your work as well as your school organization. [SIGN UP HERE!](#)  
Questions: Dave [dave.gundale@spps.org](mailto:dave.gundale@spps.org)

**Great school service opportunity:** Sign up to tutor a younger student during crew academic days and/or after school! Earn up to 80+ school service hours helping a younger student with their work. Also looks great on college applications! Sign up using [this form](#).

**PTO News:**

**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS:**

We are looking for volunteers who may be interested in stepping up to chair the following two fundraisers:

1: **Spirit Wear**: Typically this event happens in the fall but can happen at any time during the year. I am happy to have an assistant this year and you can take over the following year but it is also great to make your own path and take over on your own (or with your own team).

2: **Raffle-O-Rama**: This is an event that is held in conjunction with the Celebration of Learning, the first Friday in June. This event consists of a community dinner along with a raffle and sometimes a silent auction. Feel free to make this your own! I am here as a reference for you as you need.

Please reach out to Jennifer Lodahl with interest or questions. [lodahl.stp@gmail.com](mailto:lodahl.stp@gmail.com). Thanks for considering!

**DONATE**: If you are interested in supporting our school social workers, please see [this link](#). \$135 still needed.

**DONATE**: **OWL believes that access to feminine products is a right.** If you are able to donate products to help us provide free feminine products so that they are always available, please consider donating some by dropping them off with Tammy in the front office. From there we will make sure they get to where they are needed.

**OWL Community Group Facebook Page:** If you use Facebook and want to stay connected to other OWL families, [HERE IS THE LINK](#) to the OWL family page.

**iUpdate and Lunch Forms:** If you have not yet completed the iUpdate or Free and Reduced Lunch forms, please take a moment to do so by clicking here: <https://www.spps.org/onestop> If you have forgotten your user name and/or password, please call Tammy in the OWL office at 651-293-8670 and she will be happy to assist you with your login information. It is extremely important that ALL students complete both of these forms. Please take care of this ASAP.

**CREW NEWS:** This month in Crew, students are exploring the topic of inclusion. Crews will have opportunities to learn how to build an inclusive community at OWL. Some questions to ask at home during October include:

*What affinity groups have you found at OWL? Have you joined a Wednesday club?*

*What books are mirrors for you?*

*At OWL, I've heard you often work in groups made out of students with diverse learning styles. Who have you enjoyed working with?*

*Which of the multiple intelligences is strongest for you? Which are you working on?*

*What strategies have you learned for showing sensitivity with friends and classmates with disabilities?*

**One proven way to live a happy life is to express gratitude. Is there a staff member at OWL that has done something you are**

**grateful for?** Shoot them an email! An alternative and way has been made available by filling out [this link](#). (This form requires an email but is sent anonymously.)

**Important Reminder about Attendance:**

If your child is going to miss school, please call, email or write a note to explain the reason for the absence. If we do not hear from you, the absence is documented as unexcused. After 3 days of unexcused absences, you will receive a letter from the school reminding you to please communicate with us so the absence(s) may be documented accurately. If your child continues to miss school, unexcused, he/she will be referred to the SAM (School Attendance Matters) Program for intervention.

The following reasons for absence qualify as an excused absence; illness, doctor, dental or therapy appointment (please be sure to obtain a note to give to the school), extreme family emergency or religious holiday not already recognized by our school district. When a student misses 3 or more class periods in one day, this is considered to be a full day of absence. Please call us if you have any questions/concerns.