



Orono Schools

Where Excellence is a Tradition and a Goal

District 278
685 N. Old Crystal Bay Road
Long Lake, MN 55356

952-449-8300
info@orono.k12.mn.us

District News • November 1, 2024



From the Superintendent

At Orono Schools, it's our privilege to serve the incredible students and families in our close-knit learning community. Our commitment to their academic growth and mental well-being is at the heart of everything we do. The district's [Strategic Planning](#) process last year reaffirmed our focus on *connectedness* and the profound value of a school culture centered around respect and understanding. The vast community input we gathered during this process showed overwhelming support for our partnership and commitment to shared values. One of our district values, *Relationships*, guides us to ensure that each Orono classroom and gathering space is safe, civil, and inclusive.

As the country chooses its leaders next week, we are presented with an opportunity to exemplify the respectful engagement we teach our students. During times of political tension, it's easy to focus on our differences in opinion, background, culture, or race, and it can sometimes feel easier to respond with anger or frustration. Our actions in these final days of the election will show that our relationships are strong enough to endure any difference.

In school, we will continue to lean into our commitment to the Pillars of Character. We will be dedicated to modeling kindness and showing our students how to respectfully engage with others, even when there is disagreement. We will also continue to affirm the values that unify us and will never allow the language of racism or intolerance to have a place within Orono Schools.

Orono students and staff consistently model what it means to be respectful and kind. We stand ready to support each other as we prepare for the future and work through a range of emotions. Thank you for your ongoing partnership in supporting an environment where every student can thrive.

Sincerely,
Kristine Flesher, Ed.D.
Superintendent

No Preschool
No School K-12

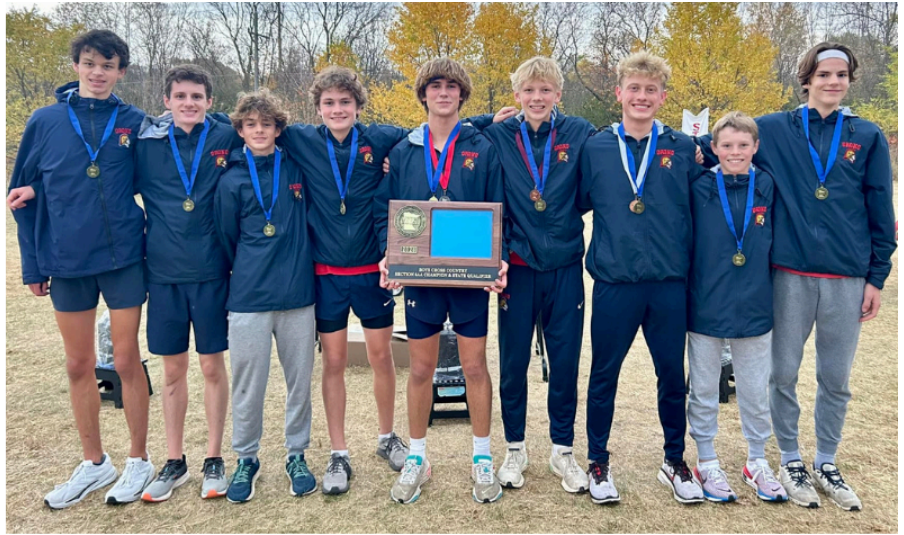
PROFESSIONAL DAY
NOVEMBER 8, 2024

Celebrating Fall Sports

Congratulations to our fall sports teams who continue to amaze us with their talent and Spartan spirit! **Football** plays in the Section Championship **tonight here** at Pesonen Stadium. The Boys Cross Country team and Jocie Hallen will compete **tomorrow** in the state cross country meet. Our Boys and Girls Soccer teams both competed in the State Semifinal games at U.S. Bank Stadium and placed 4th in State. After winning the True Team State Meet, our Girls Swimming and Diving Team will close out their season next week with a chance to compete in the MSHSL State Meet November 15-16 at the U of M. Congratulations to all our athletes and good luck to those who are still "in the game" this season.



FOOTBALL
SECTION 6AAAA
TITLE GAME
#1 ORONO VS.
#2 PROVIDENCE
TONIGHT
NOVEMBER 1
7:00 PM
PESONEN STADIUM



GOOD LUCK! Cross Country State Tournament November 2, 2024
University of Minnesota Les Bolstad Golf Course





**STATE
4TH
PLACE**



True Team STATE Champions!
MSHSL State Meet November 15 & 16



Anastasia
THE MUSICAL

Tickets on Sale Now!
Shows November 15-23

<https://oronohs.booktix.com>

Orono School Board Meeting Highlights

Monday, October 28, 2024 | [Agenda](#)

- Superintendent's Report on Excellence | [Watch the Presentation](#)
- Board Reports & Comments | [Watch the Presentation](#)
- Policy Action (101, 101.1, 102, 103, 104, 522) | [Watch the Presentation](#)

- New Policy Review | [Watch the Presentation](#)
- Orono Excellence Fund - Secondary Learning & Implementation | [Watch the Presentation](#)
- Resolution to Support the Application to the MSHSL Foundation for a Form A Grant to Offset Student Activity Fees | [Watch the Presentation](#)

Monday, October 14, 2024 | [Agenda](#)

- Superintendent's Report on Excellence | [Watch the Presentation](#)
- Board Reports & Comments | [Watch the Presentation](#)
- Policy Action (Policy 506, 722, 806) | [Watch the Presentation](#)
- Kindergarten "Character Strong" Implementation | [Watch the Presentation](#)
- Policy Review | [Watch the Presentation](#)
- Teaching and Learning Framework: Pilot Rubrics | [Watch the Presentation](#)

NOTE: The next meeting of the Orono School Board is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 12, 2024**, at 7 p.m. in the District Office Assembly Room. If you are interested in participating in the Public Comment session at 7 p.m., please learn more and register on the [School Board's Public Comment webpage](#).

Important Dates

- November 4 - [Winter Sports Meeting](#) 6 p.m. in the OHS Competition Gym*
- November 5 - Election Day | [Find Your Polling Place](#)
- November 8 - Professional Day (No School E-12)
- November 11 - Community Veterans Day program from 8:45-9:30 a.m. in the Orono High School Gymnasium
- November 15-23 - OHS Fall Musical, "Anastasia: The Musical" | [Tickets and Information](#)
- November 25-29 - No Preschool/ECFE Preschool Conferences/Thanksgiving Break
- November 25 - Parent-Teacher Conferences (afternoon/evening)
- November 26 - Parent-Teacher Conferences (No School E-12)
- November 27-29 - Thanksgiving Break (No School E-12)

* Plus breakout meetings for the following sports: Alpine Ski**, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Boys Hockey, Nordic Ski**, Wrestling**, following the info meeting.

**denotes athletic teams that are open to middle school athletes. A tryout or pre-approval may be required before participation on the high school team.

Please see the [Calendars page](#) on the Orono Schools website for more information.



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