

OWL Weekly Email

April 14, 2025





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.

Welcome to Week 2: Monday, April 14 is an **A day**. This Friday, April 18 there is no school for students.

Monday is survey day in Crew: Please complete the required [PBIS school climate survey](#).

THIS WEEK! OWL Community Meeting: Students and Families are warmly invited to join the OWL Community Group—the organization that combines our PTO and Site Council functions. This is a great way to have your voice heard in the vision of our school community and to find out what is happening at OWL. Here are the dates of the meetings for this school year:

- **Tuesday, April 15 - 6:30 - 8:00 Special 2025-2026 Budget Meeting**
- Tuesday, May 20 - 6:30 - 8:00

All are welcome and encouraged to attend—hope to see you!

Student-Led Conferences are Wednesday, April 16 and Thursday, April 17 from 3:20 PM to 7:20 PM: If you do not yet have an appointment with your Crew leader, please contact them.

No Flipside or 5pm Bussing on April 16-17: Due to Student Led Conferences at OWL, there will be no Flipside on Wednesday April 16 or Thursday April 17. There also will not be buses running at 5pm. We will return on Monday April 21. With any questions, please reach out to preston.west@spps.org.

***Seeking meal donations for the teacher potluck buffet during Student-Led Conferences:** OWL families will be providing a potluck buffet for the teachers in the afternoon and evening of **Wednesday, April 16th, 2025** during Student-Led Conferences. Please show your support by signing up to bring a food item or two to donate to the meal. Food can be dropped off during the day before 3PM. Here is the Sign Up Genius link- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0444A4AC29A2F49-55642323-studentled>

NEW! Manatee This Week: Come out and cheer on our Ultimate Frisbee teams. There are many opportunities this week due to Spring Break rescheduling.



Tuesday 4/15: The High School Girls host Red Wing at 6PM on the Humboldt Turf

Tuesday 4/15: The High School Boys Varsity plays away vs. Edina at 6PM at 6754 Valley View Rd, Edina, MN 55439

Thursday 4/17: The High School Boys Varsity hosts Great River at 7PM on the Humboldt Turf
UNDER THE LIGHTS!

Thursday 4/17: The High School Boys JV host Central JV at 6PM on the Humboldt Turf

Friday 4/18: The Middle School teams play Minneapolis Sanford and Minneapolis Anderson at 6PM and 7PM on the Humboldt Turf

Come see the spring play--UPSTREAM! This world-premiere, immersive play about climate resilience guides audiences on a search for the river's missing daughter, taking action towards climate justice while making a beautiful climate future. Created in collaboration with Mixed Blood Theater and over a dozen community partner organizations, this participatory event will be staged throughout the school campus.



NEW! PROM! Prom is just around the corner! Mark your calendars for **April 26th** for a night that will be Under the Sea! Middle school is from 5PM - 7PM and High School is from 7:30PM - 10PM. Tickets cost \$20 and are for sale starting April 14 in all lunches. You can also get a ticket online using this link:

https://spps.cr3.schooltoday.com/public/getclass/category_id/606/program_id/112

*Though we want everyone to come to Prom, we want to stress the importance of attendance in the weeks prior to Prom. Therefore, students can have no more than 3 unexcused absences or tardies during the two weeks before Prom - April 14th to April 25th. If your student is ill or will be otherwise gone from school, please make sure to email the OWL attendance email at owlattendance@spps.org.



NEW! OWL Staff Appreciation Week: is soon approaching (May 5-9), and the parent committee in charge of the week's events to honor the staff would love to have your expressions of gratitude be the grand finale of the week! Students and Families--please take a moment to fill out [this short survey](#), and the committee will create posters with your thoughtful expressions, and will hang them throughout the hallways of the school so staff can be uplifted by our gratitude. Spring can be a hard time for school personnel! Let's show them our love!

NEW! Join us for a day rooted in Youth Activism on April 30! YIA day will be laid out similar to STEM day and our past author visits. We will be having guest speakers and presenters from the school, and from around the city! These guest speakers will be presenting during crew, this way if a student cannot miss their 4B class, they can still participate! During 4th hour, we will be going outside (if weather permits) and we will have tables with different stations as well as a reflective circle to talk about what we've learned.

NEW! OWL's first PRIDE NIGHT is on Wednesday, April 30 at 7PM: Join us for a celebratory night!

NEW! SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS | High School Students - Current 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders

SPPS Credit Recovery (summer school):

· High school students who owe core credits will be enrolled for summer school by high school counselor Jolene.

Summer school sites for in-person programming:

- Grade 9 seat-based..... Johnson High School, each course carries 1 credit, up to 8 credits
- Grade 10 seat-based.....Como High school, each course carries 1 credit, up to 8 credits
- Grade 11 seat-based.....Como High school, each course carries 1 credit, up to 16 credits
- Grade 12 seat-based.....Como High school, each course carries 1 credit, up to 24 credits
- Grade 10-12 Experiential Learning...Johnson High School, each course carries 1 credit
- Instruction is on-site during scheduled class time
- Coursework is available on Schoology and allows students to have flexibility to work on materials outside of summer school hours.
- School hours: 8:45 2:45

· **Attendance:**

- Daily in-person attendance ***is expected.***
- Students are marked ***present*** when they are at school and in class.
- Each program will "end date" any student who has not attended and has not completed any work on day 6.

· **Session 1 (June 24-July 25)**

-All students will be referred for term 1 and for in-person learning.

Families who need online learning and/or TERM 2 must let Jolene know April 28th.

Summer school for online learning:

- Session 1 (June 24-July 25)
- School hours: 8:45 2:45
- Students work on course content material that is online and self-paced. Teachers are available online for instruction and help students during a scheduled time. Students must be motivated, independent learners.

· **Attendance:**

- Each program will "end date" any student who has not attended and has not completed any work on day 6.

Session 2 Information:

-Students who participate in any Credit Recovery program during Session One, who still need credits will be enrolled in the online Credit Recovery Network extended time program from **July 29-August 14 (13 days)**. Information will be shared with students during Session 1.

OWL core credits that students can recover:

- English: English 9, 10, 11, 12
- Science: Integrated Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics
- Social Studies: World History, Human Geography, US History, Government, Economics
- Math: Integrated Math I, Integrated Math II, Geometry, Algebra 2
- Health
- Critical Ethnic Studies

Grad Stats/Credit Information:

- Crew leaders will share graduation status at Student-Led Conferences
- Transcripts can be viewed on Campus portals

If you have any questions about summer school and/or your student's credits, feel free to email OWL High School Counselor: jolene.yang@spps.org.

AVID applications are open for the 2025-2026 school year! Interested in learning more about AVID, a program designed to prepare all students for college readiness and success in a global society through academic support and engaging enrichment activities?

- Virtual family information session is scheduled for April 29 at 6:00 PM at [this link](#).
- Students entering grades 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 this fall can apply to join OWL AVID Elective classes at [this link](#); please note that a parent or guardian needed to answer the last 6 questions.
- Students should also select the AVID Elective course during registration in social studies class the week of April 7-11.
- Students entering grades 11 and 12 in the fall can apply to work as OWL AVID tutors at [this link](#).
- All AVID applications are due Friday, May 23.

NEW! This month in Crew, we are preparing for student-led conferences (grades 6, 7, 9, and 11), passages (grades 8 and 10) and senior meetings (grade 12). Our Crew lessons are focused on perseverance.

Testing Update:

Last Week of April students in grades 6-8 will be taking the MCA math test. This test will occur during first and second period on the following dates ; 6th grade - Monday 4/28, 8th grade - Tuesday 4/29, 7th grade - Wednesday 4/30.

First week of May students in grades 8-9 will take the MCA science test. This test will occur during first and second period on the following dates ; 9th Grade (Biology classes) - Monday 5/5 , 8th grade - Wednesday 5/9.

If you would like your student to not take the MCA, please fill out [this form](#).

PSEO Application Due Dates: For current students in grades 9-11 interested in applying for Post Secondary Enrollment Option classes in the fall—here are the due dates for applications. To see the video of the PSEO information night go [HERE](#). Students who are interested in PSEO should email Jolene for an appointment at jolene.yang@spps.org.

NEW! Donations Needed: Fidgets, Games and Toys for Mental Health My students struggle with mental health, and they are learning how to self-advocate and use coping strategies. Calming fidgets and games will help them when they need breaks during the day. They earn CRISP tickets when they show collaboration, responsibility, integrity, stewardship, and perseverance. Each toy is worth a different amount of CRISP tickets. Typically students use screens to take breaks from learning, but fidgets, games and toys offer an interactive alternative. [GO HERE to DONATE!](#) Thanks!

Seed donations needed for crop art: Do you have any of the following seeds in your cupboard? Tom and Megan are seeking donations for crop art activities during Interim. Please bring donations directly to Tom or Megan.

- Canola
- Mung bean
- Amaranth
- Quinoa, red and white
- Yellow split pea
- Millet
- Flax, brown
- Wild rice
- Red lentil
- Lima beans
- Black beans
- Corn, various varieties

DONATIONS NEEDED: The student leaders of OWL's environmental club are looking for 5 trash bin donations for their newest service project. These bins need to be at least 36in tall, and preferably 30in wide. Please drop off these donations at the front office with Tammy, or contact mmoe003@stpaul.k12.mn.us with any questions. In Crew, OWL Environmental Club

Read the Latest Edition of the Purple Press: OWL's student newspaper [HERE!](#) Note: This edition was published on April 1 (get it?)

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.)

OWL believes that access to menstrual/period products is a right. If you are able to donate to help us provide free menstrual/period 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.

Community Announcements:

NEW! The University of Minnesota- College of Science and Engineering (CSE) is now accepting applications to 2025 Discover STEM, a one-week summer program where students entering grades 11 and 12 learn about STEM academics and communities at UMN. The program, offered **free of charge**, is an on-campus experience to explore about current topics in research and learn about academic programs and career pathways through presentations, laboratory tours, science experiments, technology demonstrations, and Q&A sessions with current undergraduate students in the College of Science and Engineering. **The deadline to apply is April 25th. We are looking for students who:**

- High school students entering grades 11 or 12 in fall 2024
- Demonstrate both an interest and aptitude in science, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics
- Share our commitment to supporting and building a inclusive and diverse community

If you are interested in knowing more - please find more information on [our website](#) or on the informational flyer attached below. If you have any questions or would like support please email cseoutreach@umn.edu.

Summer Women in Engineering Program Scholarships: 3M is providing 14 students from St. Paul, Minneapolis & North St. Paul/Maplewood Public Schools with full-ride scholarships, including transportation, to attend Michigan Tech's Women in Engineering program. Students will spend one week exploring nine different fields of engineering while meeting other students from around the world and experiencing life on a college campus. It's like summer camp, but smarter!

We are reviewing applications on a rolling basis (approx. every 2 weeks) as awards remain. To apply, all students need to do is complete our Women in Engineering (WIE) Pathway Program [application](#) and our system will automatically let us know they're eligible for the award based on the school zip code.

Please see the attached flyer for more info. [WIE-3M.pdf](#)

If you have any questions please contact Brad Wells, Assistant Director of SYP, at bawells@mtu.edu or 906-487-2027.

St. Paul Saints Miracle League: It is open to any student living in St. Paul that has a disability up to age 22. Sessions are held Sundays at the Bridge View/Focus Beyond baseball field. Previous sessions have been very fun and inclusive for students and their families! Get more information [HERE](#).

St. Paul College Summer Camps: Trade and Tech Innovator Camp, Summer Beauty Camp, Scrubs Camp. More information [HERE](#)!

Interested in a full scholarship for an Outward Bound course in the Boundry Waters this summer? Go [HERE](#) for more information about how to apply.

Looking for a summer adventure?: Sea Change Expeditions leads **10-day sailing trips on Lake Superior** for teens this June. They have a steeply sliding scale for fees. Here is the link with more information: www.seachangeexpeditions.org/teen-trips

Family Coaching for Native American Families: Ramsey County is offering this program. For more information, go to this link: [Family Coaching for American Indian Families](#)

Summer Youth Employment Opportunity with Tree Trust: Click [HERE](#) for more information about a great job in the great outdoors.

Community Resources for Eye Care and Glasses [HERE](#)

Important Reminder about Attendance:

If your child is going to miss school, please call, email owlattendance@spps.org 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.

OWL Schoolwide Norms

- Respect people, their boundaries and identities, materials, and spaces
 - Be kind, caring and friendly, especially when it's difficult
 - Keep an open mind: engage in opportunities and courageous conversation
 - Help create safe and brave spaces so that everyone can be their authentic selves and speak their truths
 - Actively listen and participate (one mic, one voice), staying engaged and following through on commitments and expectations. *We are Crew, not passengers.*
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Timothy Leone-Getten

Timothy is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters