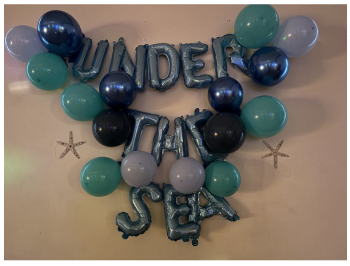
OPEN WORLD LEARNING COMMUNITY
AN EXPEDITIONARY LEARNING SCHOOL | GRADES 6-12

OWL Weekly Email

April 28, 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 4: Monday, April 28 is a **B day**.

Monday is survey day in Crew:

- All students and staff are requested to complete the clubs feedback survey, which will be used for planning next year's schedule.
- Students may still complete the Crew change form, due Tuesday, May 13.

NEW! YEARBOOK: Be a part of OWL history . Order your 2025 Yearbook here.

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. CLICK HERE to register to attend!

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



NEW! Manatee This Week: Come out and cheer on our Ultimate Frisbee teams. The Girls Varsity and the JV Boys had big wins last week. The Boys Varsity did as well. In addition, they are currently

ranked #1 in Minnesota and #6 in the USA. They also received an invitation to the High School National Tournament!

Tuesday 4/29: The High School Girls play Benilde-St. Margaret AWAY at 6PM
Tuesday 4/29: The High School Boys JV host CENTRAL at 6 PM on the Humboldt Turf
Wednesday 4/30: The High School Boys JV host Mounds View JV at 6:30 PM on the Humboldt Grass Field
Thursday 5/1: The High School Boys Varsity plays St. Louis Park AWAY at 6PM.
Thursday 5/1: The High School Boys JV play Eagan JV Blue AWAY at 6PM
Friday 5/2: The Middle School teams play Minneapolis Sanford and Rosemount at 6PM and 7:15PM on the Humboldt Turf

NEW! Middle School Sports Update:
Track & Field
Monday, April 28, 2025: 4:30pm - Track meet at Como Park High School
Thursday, May 1, 2025: 4:30pm - Track meet at Washington Tech
Badminton
Tuesday, April 29, 2025: 4:30pm - Home match vs Capitol Hill
Middle School sporting events are always free. For updated and current middle school and high school schedules, click the "Athletics" tab on our school website or go to StPaulCity.org

NEW! Middle School Athletics - Bussing Ends May 7th
While Middle School athletics will continue on past May 7th, bussing through the Flipside program will no longer be available after May 7th. All students staying after for sports should have a pre-arranged ride home for the remainder of the season.

NEW! Flipside - Family Day and End of Program:
Tuesday May 6th will be our Family Day! Parents and siblings of Flipside students are encouraged to come for food, prizes, and festivities! The event will run from 3:20-5:00PM on the Humboldt Field (in the event of rain, we will be in the Humboldt Cafeteria). Bussing will run as normal at 5pm! Additionally, Wednesday May 7th will be our final day of Flipside. We hope that all 6th and 7th graders sign up for Flipside next year! With any flipside questions about next year's Flipside program, reach out to Sharon Idowu at sharon.idowu@spps.org

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! OWL Plant Sale Pick Up is May 7-9: Plants will be ready for curbside pick-up at the front of OWL **Wed. May 7 – Fri. May 9 the following hours:**

Wednesday, May 7 from 3:15 – 7PM
Thursday, May 8 from 3:15 – 7PM
Friday, May 9 from 3:15 – 5PM
If you didn't get an order in or would like any additional plants, we will also have plants for sale at the above times.

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, May 20 - 6:30 - 8:00**
All are welcome and encouraged to attend—hope to see you!

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 (9th grade classes only)
-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 by 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.

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.

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

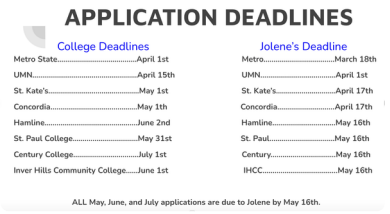
DONATIONS NEEDED: The student leaders of OWL's environmental club are looking for 5 trash bin donations for their newest service project. These bins need to be at least 36in tall, and preferably 30in wide. Please drop off these donations at the front office with Tammy, or contact mmoe003@stpaul.k12.mn.us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

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.







Get a summer's worth of rides on buses and light rail with a Summer Student Pass!

Any current 9th-12th grade student at participating schools can get unlimited rides on buses and trains up to a $3.25* fare. Passes are valid from June 1 through Sept. 2, 2025.

How do I get one?

Starting May 5, go to **metrotransit.org/summer-pass** to get more details about the pass and order one using a credit card. All you need is your school's name and your student ID number.

If you'd rather use cash, you can buy a Summer Student Pass at a Metro Transit Service Center. Call 612-373-3333 or visit metrotransit.org/service-centers for locations.

Have questions? A friendly transit expert can answer them. Give us a call at 612-373-3333.

* For fares higher than $3.25, like some Northstar trips, just add stored value to your pass.

NEW! Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) in the UMN Department of Chemistry is a group of graduate students who work towards supporting and uplifting women in STEM. We will be holding our annual **Cool Chem** event on S**aturday, May 17 from 10-1pm**. Cool Chem is an event where girls in grades 6-8 get the opportunity to do hands-on science experiments, watch thrilling demos, and use their science knowledge to make their own ice cream. The cost of this event is $10, but we are more than happy to provide free enrollment for those who may not be able to pay. For those interested, registration can be found at the following link: https://learning.umn.edu/portal/events/reg/participantTypeSelection.do?method=load&entityId=55432775

NEW! **Emerging Leaders of Color (ELOC)** is a free high school pathway program offered by our undergraduate office. High school students commit to coming to campus one Saturday a month from 9am to 2pm over 9 months (September- April). We are expecting up to 70 students this next year, which is an increase from the past. Each five hour Saturday session focuses on a different business topic and features a keynote speaker from that industry, a business activity related to that topic, a professional development session, a college prep session, and mentorship. It is led by our undergraduate students enrolled at Carlson who provide mentorship and community.

NEW! **Analytics U is a free week-long summer pathway program** that centers the experience of

people in analytics, and is open to high school students of all identities. The program introducing them to how data science can play a critical role in solving real world problems that impact our everyday lives.The program will also include:

- College access and professional development opportunities
- Connections and networking with industry professionals in the metropolitan area
- An immersive educational experience at the Mall of America

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.*



Timothy Leone-Getten
Timothy is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters