

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2025

IN THE LOOP

with LINK

Updates, Observations & Anecdotes for Parents
from Julianne Allen,

OFCS Family Engagement & Communication Specialist

hello
FALL

Vol. 6
Issue 2/3

PARENT/FAMILY/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES & IMPORTANT DATES*

10/8	OFMS Washington DC Parent Mtg.- 7:00 PM @OFMS
10/9	OECPTA Meeting- 7:00 PM @FL
10/10	NO SCHOOL- NEOEA Day
10/13	NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS- Staff PD Day
10/14	OFMS PTA Meeting- 7:00 PM @OFMS
10/20	OFIS PTA Meeting- 6:30 PM @OFIS
10/22	Falls-Lenox/ECC PTA Mtg- 6:30 PM @ECC
10/23-25	OFMS BTC Fall Musical- 7:00 PM @MS
10/24	OFIS Halloween Parade/Parties- 1:30 PM
10/27	OFHS PTA Meeting- 7:00 PM @OFHS
10/30	ECC Preschool Fall Fest Celebration
10/30	ECC Kindergarten Fall Fest Celebration
10/31	Falls-Lenox Halloween Parade/Parties- 1:15 PM
11/3	OFIS Parent/Teacher Conferences- 2:30-7:00 PM
11/3	ECC Parent/Teacher Conferences- 3:00-7:00 PM
11/3	OFMS Student Led Conferences- 4:00-7:30 PM
11/4	NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS- Election & Staff PD Day
11/6	OFIS Parent/Teacher Conferences- 2:30-7:00 PM
11/6	OFHS Parent/Teacher Conferences- 5:00-8:30 PM
11/6	Falls-Lenox Family Wellness Night
11/10	OFMS PTA Meeting- 7:00 PM @MS
11/11	Veteran's Day Program at Falls-Lenox
11/13	OECPTA Meeting- 7:00 PM @FL
11/13	ECC Parent/Teacher Conferences- 3:00-7:00 PM
11/13	OFMS Student Led Conferences- 4:00-7:30 PM
11/13	OFHS Parent/Teacher Conferences- 5:00-8:30 PM
11/19	Falls-Lenox/ECC PTA Meeting- 6:30 PM @FL
11/20	Falls-Lenox Parent/Teacher Conferences- 3:00-7:00 PM
11/21	OFIS PTA Meeting- 8:00 AM @OFIS
11/21-22	OFHS Fall Play- 7:30 PM @HS
11/24	Falls-Lenox Parent/Teacher Conferences- 3:00-7:00 PM
11/24	OFHS PTA Meeting- 7:00 PM @OFHS
11/26-28	Thanksgiving Break- NO SCHOOL

Contact your building or visit www.ofcs.net for details.

NUMBERS THAT COUNT

26%

Only 26 percent of families have actually developed and practiced a home fire escape plan.*

In reality, house fires burn so quickly that you may have only a few minutes to safely exit. It is important to prepare, plan, and practice with your family so you all know what to do in the event of a fire. Visit causeforalarm.org to complete a fire safety checklist, create an escape plan, and learn how to make your home safer.

**Prepare.
Plan.
Practice!**



Source: [American Red Cross](http://AmericanRedCross.org) and Kidde.com

YourTeenMag.com

At times, the bigger our kids get, the bigger their challenges seem to be! **Your Teen** is a leading source for parents seeking high-quality information and advice about raising teenagers. Check out the LINK APPROVED link for parenting resources, sign up for a newsletter, join a parent group on Facebook, listen to their podcast, and more.

If you feel frustrated or unsure about how to parent your teen, you are not alone. Visit [YourTeenMag](http://YourTeenMag.com) to connect with other parents and get support for navigating the teen years! You can do this! (Really!)



(NOT my wedding photo)

I DO! (Want You to Get Engaged!)

by Julianne Allen
Family Engagement & Communication Specialist



I met a visitor from outside our district who was impressed to learn that Olmsted Falls has a full-time staff member devoted to helping teachers, administrators, and support staff engage families and the community in ways that support student success. (But enough about me!) He shared a story about an educator who once told him to think of family engagement the same way we view an engagement between two people.

This was too weird a thought for me to have come up with on my own. But the truth is, much like an engaged couple are partners, family engagement is a partnership between school and home. Strong partnerships require two-way communication, shared decision-making, problem-solving, and an understanding that both sides bring something valuable to the table.

Now, as much as I love our Bulldog families, I don't want to marry any of you. (That would be super awkward, and who's going to explain THAT to my husband?) But I do love the idea of our teachers and administrators partnering with parents, families, and the community as equals to help all students soar. Like any relationship, there will be misunderstandings. For instance, I might tell my husband not to get me anything for my birthday, but he knows me well enough to realize I don't really mean it. And he also SHOULD know never to give me an appliance as a gift. The key in both marriage and family engagement is to communicate clearly, work together, and keep the focus on what matters most- the kids.

Engaged partners get through the tough times together. Luckily, in family engagement, there's no wedding to plan, no crazy uncle to invite, and no cake flavors to debate. Mistakes will happen because we're human. But if we assume best intentions, we can work through them. Schools and families, like spouses, need to give each other the benefit of the doubt. We're on the same team.

Before I spend more time analyzing my own relationship mistakes, I'll end with this: like any successful relationship, the partnership between school and home takes patience, effort, and communication. It won't be perfect, and there will be ups and downs. But the end goal- seeing our students graduate and thrive in the real world- is worth it. Sure, we could try to go it alone, but kids are a lot of work and they deserve our joint effort. Let's do this together. And I promise—I won't give you a toaster oven for your birthday.
Thanks, partner! -Julianne



Don't Leave Us Hanging- Get to Parent-Teacher Conferences this Year!

Remember that article you just read about being a good partner? Here's an opportunity to put that into practice! Parent-Teacher Conferences are almost here! Teachers spend a lot of time preparing to speak with YOU about YOUR CHILD, so be sure to show up. (I'm looking at YOU high school parents!)

Check your school email for info about scheduling. Can't make it on these days? You're not off the hook! Contact your school to discuss other options. Even if you think your child is doing "well", there is so much to be gained by establishing a relationship and ongoing communication with your school. Now be a good partner and schedule that conference ASAP!



PLAN ON IT!*

*Plan on checking out these events and opportunities!

NATIONAL PTA® REFLECTIONS®

The National PTA Reflections program encourages students of all ages and abilities to get involved in the arts by creating original works of art around this year's theme of "I Belong!" Students may complete entries in multiple mediums including Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, and Visual Arts.

There are multiple age divisions and an Accessible Arts option for students with disabilities. All entries are due to your school before the deadline of Monday, December 1st.

Look for more info from your school or contact your PTA to enter! Will your student be the next Picasso?
You never know!



Discover Your Future

POLARIS
CAREER CENTER
50 YEARS
1975-2025

2025 COLLEGE, CAREER & RESOURCE FAIR



Tuesday Oct. 7, 2025



6:00 – 7:30 PM



Polaris Career Center
7285 Old Oak Boulevard
Middleburg Heights, OH 44130

Questions?

440.891.7666

TProcaccini@polaris.edu

polaris.edu/discoveryyourfuture



Pre-register TODAY at StriveFair.com
Create your personal barcode and instantly share your contact info with the colleges and organizations you meet on October 7th.



Ready to plan your path after graduation?

Whether you're aiming for college, the military or career training, this is your FREE one-stop shop to explore more than 90 colleges, career paths and community resources - all in one place!

Featuring:

- 4-year & 2-year colleges & universities
- Private and public higher education institutions
- Career training & apprenticeship programs
- Military representatives
- Community resources for financial, educational & career planning

Why Attend?

- Explore a variety of post-secondary options
- Get a head start on your college and career plans
- Gain early access to valuable tools and contacts
- Walk away with information, inspiration and connections to help you Discover Your Future!

YOUR Future. YOUR Choices. YOUR Night to Explore.

Are you a PARENT or caregiver who wants to be a LEADER for EDUCATION in your COMMUNITY?

Accepting Applications until October 24, 2025

LEARN MORE + APPLY



BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center



The Academy is a five-month leadership program for parents or caregivers that want to increase their knowledge of the education system and leading positive change for all students.

Starts: January 16, 2026

Ends: May 29, 2026

What's Involved?

- Three in-person workshops in Columbus, Ohio
- Two online meetings
- Four self-paced modules with assignments
- School project that is designed and implemented by participant

<https://go.osu.edu/flacademy>



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
CENTER ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT

SAVE THE DATE

OFHS Masquers Presents:



November 21 & 22

7:30 PM

Ticket Info

Coming Soon!



BULLDOG THEATER COMPANY
PRESENTS

FINDING NEMO JR

OCTOBER

23RD 24TH 25TH

OLMSTED FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

7:00 PM

JOIN US

Our School Facilities: A Community Forum

Join us for updates about our school facilities and an opportunity to provide feedback to the Facilities Master Planning Committee.

Tuesday, Nov. 11, 6:00 PM @ Falls-Lenox Primary School

More info coming soon in Our Financial Story and Our School Report newsletters

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2025 IN THE LOOP with LINK

Earn incentives, win prizes, and have FUN by attending school!
Stay tuned!



STAY *IN THE* GAME!

KEEP LEARNING, EVERY DAY

WE'RE HIRING!

OLMSTED FALLS SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES

- ✓ WORK WHILE YOUR KIDS ARE IN SCHOOL
- ✓ SERVE OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY
- ✓ FRIENDLY, SUPPORTIVE TEAM

OPEN POSITIONS

• 3-75 HOUR FOOD SERVER

JOIN US AND HELP FEED OUR FUTURE!

APPLY AT OFCS.SCHOOLS.PRING.COM
OR TO LEARN MORE, CALL 440-427-6440

GOOD STUFF



NO BAD JOKE

LIKE A DAD JOKE!

A cringeworthy feature inspired by bad dad jokes everywhere!

Q. What position did the turkey play on the baseball team?

A. First Baste!

WHAT IS LINK?

LINK is an acronym for Learn, Inspire, Nurture, Know. The LINK Program is a district-wide family-community engagement resource. The goal of LINK is to connect the Olmsted Falls School District with parents and families, to encourage two-way communication, and to help parents support the education, growth, and well-being of their children at home.



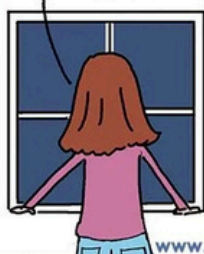
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
VETERANS DAY
November 11th

Happy Thanksgiving
November 27th

SERIOUSLY COMICAL

How Daylight Saving Time Feels

It's pitch-black out!



What TIME is it?



IS IT MIDNIGHT?



www.hedgerhumor.com

IT FEELS LIKE MIDNIGHT!



It's 5:27 p.m.



www.hedgerhumor.com

STAY "IN THE LOOP" ON INSTAGRAM!

@OFCSLINK
@OFCSDistrict



TRICK OR TREAT

Saturday, November 1
6-8 PM

VOTE!

Tuesday, November 4th

Go to VoteOhio.gov
See what races are on your ballot, find your polling place, request an absentee ballot and more!
(Remember- there is no school for students this day.)
No excuses! VOTE!



"TOTALLY QUOTABLE"

"There is a child in every one of us who is still a trick-or-treater looking for a brightly-lit front porch." -Robert Brault

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