# OWL WEEKLY EMAIL

October 6, 2025

BWW 2025 Media Feature: OWL




**Watch this video documentary by EL Education entitled DEEPER LEARNING AT OWL: THE SENATE EXPEDITION featuring this year's 9th graders from their Integrated Math 1 class.**

THIS WEEK'S EMAIL WAS DELAYED DUE TO A NOW-RESOLVED ISSUE WITH THE PROGRAM WE USE TO SEND OUT MASS COMMUNICATION. THANKS FOR YOUR PATIENCE.

*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.*

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Share in the fun! We need your help to make this event a great success. Please sign up HERE to volunteer or donate a baked good!

**NOTE! Fall Retreat Fees Due: Please use THIS LINK to pay for fall retreats. We need everyone who is able to contribute as these experiences are costly. That said, we offer full and partial scholarships to any families that need them. Contact Principal Dave dave.gundale@spps.org to request a scholarship.**

**Application for Educational Benefits (Very Important to Complete!)** While all in-person students will receive free breakfast and lunch under Minnesota's Free School Meals program, it remains **critical that all families complete an Application for Educational Benefits each school year.** Educational Benefit Form These applications determine how much funding your child's school receives for educational programs and supports. Additionally, eligible families can qualify for other benefits. The application can be completed online at schoolcafe.com/spps. Paper applications are available at school. **We need 100% of OWL families to complete this form, even if you do not believe you will receive benefits.** We have achieved 100% completion on this for the last five years at OWL.

**No Monday survey due to Fall Retreats.**

**No OWL Crew Parliament due to Fall Retreats.**

**Fall Retreat Week—October 6-10:** We will have a big week of learning, service and adventure! We have some great experiences planned.

**NOTE! OWL THEATER WILL NOT REHEARSE THIS WEEK due to fall retreats:** Rehearsals for A Wrinkle in Time will begin on Monday, October 13 from 3-5PM.

**NOTE! Flipside Begins TUESDAY October 7th (NOT MONDAY):**
Owl 6-8th grade students. Flipside is ready to start on TUESDAY 10/7/25. That's right, Flipside starts on TUESDAY next week - with Monday/ Wednesday classes starting Wednesday of next week. DO NOT stay after school on Monday. Plan to GO HOME Monday. We look forward to the start of Fall Flipside on TUESDAY.
Flipside is the fun & free afterschool program for Humboldt and OWL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS. This program is open to all grades and will begin on October 6th. Classes meet from 3-5 pm either on Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays. The class options and registration form will be available here in the coming weeks. There is busing home at 5 PM.
CLICK HERE for information about the courses offered
CLICK HERE to register or use this QR CODE:

**PSAT Testing is Wednesday, October 8** for all OWL 11th grade students, plus 10th grade students who wish to take the test for extra practice. The test is free for 11th graders. **If your 10th grade student is interested in taking the PSAT, please register by emailing Rebecca Palmer (testing coordinator) at rebecca2.palmer@spps.org by Sept 5, 2025 . Payment of $18 was due on Sept 19, 2025.** The test this year is is during Fall Retreat Week. The 10th graders will miss this day of fieldwork which will be either Normandale Community College or the Living Land & Water Educational Barge.

This test offers great practice taking a timed test in advance of the ACT to be given to juniors in the spring. The PSAT test is also the basis for National Merit Scholarships.

**NEW! High School Sports Update**: Click HERE to learn about how the Hawks teams did this week, upcoming games, Athletes of the Month, Coach Highlights, and much more!

**NEW! Middle School Sports Update – Week of October 6, 2025**:
Middle School Sports are going well. The weather has cooperated, albeit a bit warm last week
**Families**: Your MS Athlete has been added to a Schoology group for their sport. You will find a game calendar, and reminders and messages. If you have a Schoology account, you can also access this information or use your student's account.
Here is the game schedule for this week. Please note we will not have MS Sports on Thursday due to conferences at Humboldt
**Monday, October 6, 2025**
**MS Flag Football –Away game vs Murray 4:00pm**
**Location – Field is at 280 & Como (North)**
**MS Boys Soccer – Away game vs Murray 4:00pm**
**Location – Field is at 280 & Como (North)**
**MS Volleyball – Away game at Murray MS- 4:00pm**
**MS Girls Soccer – Away game at Washington Tech 4:00**
**Wednesday, October 8, 2025**
**MS Girls Soccer – HOME game vs Highland Park 4:00pm**
**Location- El Rio Vista**
**Thursday, October 9, 2025**
Humboldt Conferences – no practice
For up-to-date schedules, please go to StPaulCity.org
Choose *Humboldt High School*
Under the calendar, click *View Schedules*
Choose the sport and click *View*
**Reminder: All students need to be picked up from practice before 5pm at door 23 located on Humboldt Avenue near the loading dock and football field. If your student has a bus through Flipside, they will be able to ride that bus after practices beginning October 7th.**
Flipside begins Tuesday, October 7th
We are asking that all MS Athletes fill out a Flipside form. For an online version, please use this link:
https://humboldt.spps.org/activities/afterschool
Select: Athlete Success for the course
We also use this form to assign an after-school bus for student athletes.
***If you are planning on picking up your student athlete at an away game, you must notify us no later than the morning of the event. You can email barbara.Lawrence@spps.org**

**NO SCHOOL—Thursday, October 16 and Friday, October 17:** State Teacher Convention (MEA weekend)

**NEW! Winter Sports Meeting is Tuesday, October 21 at 1:10PM (during Crew):** Students interested in winter sports can come to this meeting in the Auditorium.

**Please Join Us at the Open World Learning Community Fall Family Gathering**

**Thursday, October 23, 2025, 5:30-8:00pm:** at the Harriet Island Pavilion, 200 Dr. Justus Ohage Blvd, Saint Paul. FREE PARKING

**Enjoy a relaxed evening in the good company of fellow OWL families!**

- Delicious, savory tamales from La Loma: $4/ each (vegetarian option available)
- Hot & Cold Beverages: $1.50
- Outdoor Games- $1/ticket/round to win delicious treats
- On-Site Ice Cream Truck- prices vary

**Outward Bound Service Auction***: Bid on fantastic services- past services included homemade cookies of the month, climbing lessons, pet-sitting, yard work & more!

**All proceeds of the Service Auction benefit the Outward Bound Service Adventure trips during the spring interim.*

***Come hang out with the OWL Community and enjoy the beauty of Harriet Island! We hope to see your family there!***

**Spirit week is October 20-24**: Show your school spirit by dressing up. The daily themes will be announced later this fall.

**Homecoming Dance is Friday, October 24 in the OWL Cafeteria**: Middle School dance is from 5:30-7PM. High School Dance is 7:30-9:30. Tickets will be for sale in October.

**Homecoming Game is Saturday, October 25 at 4PM**: OWL's annual Homecoming Game features the high school Ultimate Frisbee team playing one of our rivals at the Humboldt Stadium. All students and families are encouraged to come cheer them on!

**Dia de los Muertos Celebration at OWL is Thursday, October 30 at 6 PM**: Come celebrate Latinx culture at OWL with this family friendly event with lots of fun and great food. Contact: Tim timothy.leone-getten@spps.org

**Last day of Quarter 1 is Thursday, November 6**: Be sure to get all your work completed and submitted!

**No School on Friday, November 7**: Staff Professional Development Day

**NEW! HOWL AWARD!!!** This year we have a new award that will be given out each month at our community meeting. **The Assistant Principal HOWL Award!!** Beginning in October, Ms. Ma'lene will be awarding 1 student who has gone above and beyond showing the HOWL of the month. **The October HOWL Award theme is STEWARDSHIP!**

**Examples of Stewardship:**

- Staying to clean up the cafeteria
- Including other students (at lunch, group projects, outside time, etc.)
- Cleaning up your classroom
- Cleaning up the garbage outside by the Four Square area
- Creating posters for anti-bullying

Students can enter by taking a picture of themselves doing the HOWL and using this LINK HERE or scan the QR code on the window outside my office and uploading it on the form. Assistant Principal HOWL posters have also been given to all Crews. Some possible prizes are:

- **Ice Cream for you and your Crew!**
- **Tickets to special events!**

- **Lunch with 4 of your friends and Ms. Ma'lene!**
- **Sports equipment!**
- **Gift cards!**

I'm so excited to present this award and to celebrate your hard work!
Good Luck, Ms. Ma'lene

**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.)

**Community Announcements:**

**NEW! Ann Bancroft Foundation 2025 GIRLHOOD SUMMIT is Saturday, October 11:** This is a day you won't want to miss - inspiring speakers, interactive breakout sessions, networking, and a day of celebration. Don't wait - register today! Continue reading for more information about the summit.
Last year, nearly 200 girls and gender-expansive youth gathered for our first-ever Girlhood Summit. They left with new friends, fresh inspiration, and the courage to dream unapologetically. We heard from so many of them afterward: *this day mattered.*
This year, our gathering takes place on **International Day of the Girl Child**, a global celebration of the power, creativity, and voices of girls everywhere. What better way to honor that day than by gathering here in Minnesota to imagine what's possible and to uplift one another.
Go HERE for more information and to register for this FREE event.

**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.

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

