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

OWL WEEKLY EMAIL

November 3, 2025









Last Thursday was the Día de los Muertos Celebration!

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.

Join OWL PTO on Facebook: Keep up with what is happening at OWL:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/878792348867374

Monday is survey day in Crew: Please take a moment to complete this student project survey about AI use in school. Do you have a survey to give? Email megan.hall@spps.org.

No After School Flipside classes on Tuesday, November 4: Election Day

School Picture retake are Wednesday, November 5: For students who did not get a picture taken in September or if you would like a retake (bring in the photos you would like to return) of the earlier photo.

OWL Crew Parliament: meets this Wednesday during Crew in Megan and Akira's room (3215). Parliament members should check in with their Crew leaders for attendance before coming up to the meeting.

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! Student-Led Conferences are Wednesday, November 19 and Thursday, November 20: Students will present about their progress and share artifacts with families and Crew leaders. If you do NOT have a conference time, please contact your student's Crew leader or call the office at 651-293-8670.

NEW! This month in Crew: students are preparing student-led conference materials for presentations November 19 and 20. If you have not yet signed up for a conference time, email your Crew leader for a link to their calendar sign-up. November Crew lessons focus on building skills in the area of responsibility, and all Crews are invited to participate in a poster competition in preparation for Asian/Pacific American Family Culture Night on December 3.

NEW! Do you have another student who is interested in OWL? Thursday, November 13 at 6:30 PM is the first Prospective Family Showcase at OWL. This event kicks off our tour and shadowing season and is a great overview of our program for prospective students. Tell friends, family and neighbors to join us. No RSVP needed.

If you would like to sign up to tour OWL during the school day or shadow a current OWL student, you can sign up for a date HERE on our website.

NEW! Yearbook: Order your copy of this year's OWL yearbook here!!
If you have any photos that you think would make a great addition to the yearbook, please email the photos to Emily, our lead student editor, at **etotushek001@stpaul.k12.mn.us**

NEW! AVID tutors (paid position) are needed: If you are at least 16, have a free period 3A or 4B, and have experiencing tutoring, you could earn a spot as a paid AVID tutor. Apply here by November 5 for a quarter 2 position.

Seeking meal donations for the teacher potluck buffet during Fall Student-Led Conferences: Owl families will be providing a potluck buffet for the teachers in the afternoon and evening of Wed. November 19, 2025 during Student-Led Conferences. Please show your support by signing up to bring a food item or two to donate to the meal. CLICK HERE for the SignUp Genius

Flipside is up and running! As we continue accepting registrations for our afterschool program, we've noticed that some students who are registered are not riding the bus. Currently, we have **149 students enrolled** and **7 buses assigned**, but only **18 students are actually using bus transportation**. If your student has been assigned a bus, please ensure they are riding it. If your student does **not** need bus transportation, kindly inform Flipside Coordinator **Sharon Idowu (sharon.idowu@spps.org)** We truly appreciate your attention to this matter. Accurate transportation numbers help us determine whether all 7 buses are necessary, allowing us to be more **efficient with our budget** and better allocate resources. Thank you for your continued support!

The Closet - a service to provide free items to students in need! We're in need of donations: Hoodies (all sizes, especially L and XL, 2XL) Sweatpants (all sizes, especially smaller ones) gloves, belts, socks (crew all sizes, especially larger feet) shorts for swimming, and clothes in Youth sizes (10-16).
Please bring items to Rebekah's room - 2209

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

Middle School WINTER SPORTS – Registration is now open!!
Middle School Winter Sports Registration is open!
Use this link to register for all MS Winter Sports: https://students.arbitersports.com/programs/st-paul-humboldt-middle-school-winter-athletic-registration-25-26
Winter I season-
Girls MS Basketball - November 10, 2025 - January 17, 2026
Wrestling (co-ed) - November 10, 2025 - January 17, 2026

Winter II season-
Boys MS Basketball - January 19, 2026 - March 15, 2026
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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.
· Flipside has begun. Some students will have a after school bus to ride. At games, ALL students Must be picked up as our games run later than 5:00pm
· 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

Join the Debate Team: Humboldt's Debate team partners with the Minnesota Urban Debate League (MNUDL) a program run through Augsburg University that empowers students to strengthen their voices, think critically, and engage with complex topics.
Debate is free for Humboldt Students to participate in. MNUDL provides transportation and meals for every tournament. No prior experience is required; new debaters receive full training and mentorship through weekly practices.
Why Join Debate?
Debate helps students:

- Build confidence in public speaking and persuasion
- Strengthen research, writing, and critical thinking skills
- Develop teamwork, leadership, and time management
- Engage with current events and social issues
- Stand out on college and scholarship applications

2025 - 2026 Season Timeline
Season: September - January
Practices: 3:10pm - 4:30pm Mondays and Tuesdays weekly
Location: Ms. Engelun's room (2202)
2025-26 Debate Topic
This year's topic, set by the National Federation of State High School Associations:
"Resolution: The United States federal government should significantly increase its exploration and/or development of the Arctic."
Tournament Schedule

- Nov. 7-8, 2025
- Nov. 21-22, 2025
- Dec. 12-13, 2025
- Sections: Jan 9-10, 2025—> (this one used to be Jan 16-17)
- *State Tournament (for qualifying students)* Jan. 23-24, 2025

Faculty Advisor: Mary Engelun mary.engelun@spps.org

S2 Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO): Current students in grades 10-12 who interested in applying for Post-Secondary Enrollment Option classes in the spring should email Jolene for an appointment at jolene.yang@spps.org to check for eligibility.

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.

HOWL AWARD!!! The Assistant Principal HOWL Award!! The November HOWL Award theme is Responsibility!
Ms. Ma'lene will be awarding 1 student who has gone above and beyond showing the HOWL of the month.

Examples of Responsibility:

- Cleaning up after yourself
- Attending classes on time
- Completing school assignments on time
- Owning up to mistakes & apologizing when appropriate
- Following the school expectations - using appropriate language
- Keeping cell phones away during instructional time

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. 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!**

All entries must be submitted by Nov. 24th to be considered for the Assistant Principal November HOWL Award. The winner will be announced at the November community meeting!!
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.)

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.

Community Resources:

NEW! Food Resources Information from Ramsey County: Click HERE for more information

NEW! Christmas Toy Assistance: Click HERE for more information
Asistencia son Jueguetes de Navidad: Clic AQUI para más información en español

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