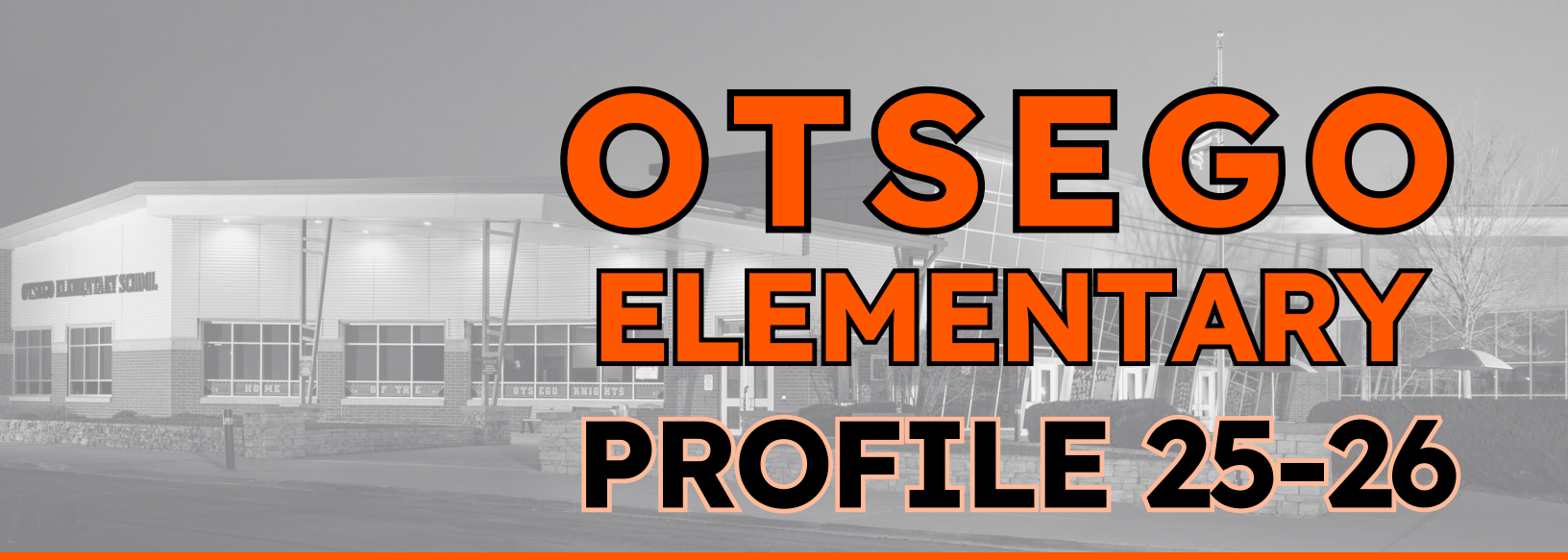


OTSEGO ELEMENTARY PROFILE 25-26

18505 Tontogany Creek Road, Suite 4 Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

419-823-4381

www.otsegoknights.org

ADMINISTRATION & OFFICE STAFF

Principal:
Katrina Baughman

Assistant Principal:
Becky Buchman

Counselors:
Lauren Miller
Kayla Snyder

Administrative Assistants:
Jenny Helberg
Angie Norman

Special Education Director:
Lauri Dunham

School Psychologist:
Stephen Bihary

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL & COMMUNITY

Otsego Elementary School sits at the heart of the Otsego Local School District, serving students from Pre-K through 5th grade in Weston, Grand Rapids, Haskins, and Tontogany. From the moment children begin in our preschool program, families find a nurturing environment committed to foundational learning. With a sliding scale preschool tuition option, we strive to make early education accessible across our community. At the elementary level, our district has prioritized the Science of Reading and adopted the Open Court ELA curriculum. This research-grounded approach reflects our ongoing dedication to early literacy and ensures students receive structured, high-impact instruction as they progress through K–3 and beyond.

Beyond academics, Otsego Elementary is a community hub where families and students are actively engaged. We emphasize clear communication — from weekly updates by the principal to approachable support staff in the main office. Our counselors and leadership team work closely to identify and support students' social and emotional needs. Outside the classroom, students grow through participation in arts, robotics, STEM events, athletics, and school traditions that create lasting memories and strengthen community bonds.

On the state's School Report Card, Otsego Elementary earns notable marks — especially in Gap Closing, where we excel in helping all student groups make growth. While academic performance in areas like Achievement, Progress, and Early Literacy reflects the challenges every school faces, it also highlights our growth areas and ongoing work. We are proud of the steady strides we make each year and view the report card not as a finish line, but as a guidepost that helps us refine instruction, improve supports, and deepen our commitment to achieving excellence for every child.

STUDENT POPULATION

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
ASIAN	0	0	0
BLACK/AFR. AM.	1	4	5
HISPANIC/LATINO	12	8	20
AM. IND./ALASKAN NATIVE	0	1	1
MULTIRACIAL	21	30	51
NATIVE HAWAIIAN/PAC. ISLANDER	0	0	0
WHITE/NON-HISPANIC	376	349	725
UNCLASSIFIED	2	3	5
TOTAL	**412**	**395**	**807**

BUILDING HIGHLIGHTS

SUBJECTS (Grades K-5)

- English Language Arts
  - Open Court Curriculum aligned to Science of Reading
- Math
  - Bridges Curriculum aligned to math best practices
- Science
- Social Studies
- Art
- Music
- Physical Education
- STEM/Technology
- Library

AREAS OF NOTE:

- Monthly Counseling Lessons
- DARE taught by the School Resource Officer in 5th Grade
- 5th Grade students attend Camp for 2 nights every fall
- Educational Field Trip at each grade level
- Music Performance by each grade level presented in the High School Auditorium
- New Inclusive Playground Equipment added over the summer

PARENT/FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

- Open House (August)
- Grandparents Night (September)
- Parent/Teacher Conferences (November)
- Donuts with Grown-Ups (March)
- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) - meet every month
  - Offer activities throughout the year
    - Color Run
    - Holiday Shop
    - Kona Ice for Field Day
  - Fund Mini-Grants for Teachers
  - Fund Dana (Our School Facility Dog)
  - Provides $500 toward each grade level's Field Trip

STAFFING & STUDENT RATIO: 49 teachers, 2 counselors, 2 administrators; student-to-certified staff ratio of 15:1.



POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS & SUPPORTS (PBIS)

What is Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports (PBIS)?

At Otsego Elementary, we use PBIS to help all students learn and grow in a positive way.

- We teach and encourage positive choices instead of only focusing on mistakes.
- Students learn clear behavior expectations for all areas of the school.
- We celebrate and recognize students who show respect, responsibility, and kindness.
- When challenges come up, we support and reteach rather than punish.
- Our goal is to create a safe, caring, and consistent environment where every child can succeed—academically, socially, and emotionally.

Students in grades 1-5 earn **Shields** for following our expectations:

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Safe

Shields can be spent in the **Medieval Market** for prizes and/or experiences.

Meet the Working Dogs at Our School



DANA
School Facility Dog

Trained at the Greater Ability Center of Toledo



Cali
School Therapy Dog

Trained through Talk Dog Toledo



Oakley
School Therapy Dog

Trained through Talk Dog Toledo