



OWL Weekly Email

January 12, 2026

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.

Monday is survey day in Crew: Check your iPad for the SPPS Student Budget Survey to complete in Crew Monday. Do you have a survey to give? Email megan.hall@spps.org.

Auditions for Cinderella this Week: Interested in acting or designing for the Spring Musical? There will be an informational meeting Monday January 12th during crew at 1:20pm. There will be an announcement to come to the auditorium at that time, all are welcome - please come with a pass from your crew leader.

Actors:

Auditions are after school 3-5pm - Monday January 12th & Tuesday Jan 13th

Crew 1-2pm - Tuesday Jan 13th & Wednesday Jan 14th

Scenes and copies of the music are available outside the auditorium. Sign up for a time slot with your preferred scene partner. If you don't have a preference, you'll be assigned a partner.

Design

Applications due Wednesday Jan 14th at 3pm

Applications are available outside the auditorium, and can be turned in there as well. Please fill in the application and include an image of something you have made before that shows your design skills. Questions will be answered at the informational meeting Monday during Crew! We'll see you there---Thank you!

OWL Community Group/PTO will meet on Tuesday, January 13 from 6:30-8PM: We will be discussing **school safety procedures** in light of the evolving situation in St. Paul and ways families can be involved. All are welcome. Hope to see you there! *If you are not able to attend the meeting

but would like to help out as a parent bus patrol volunteer before or after school, go [HERE](#). Access Code: OWL640

A Message from Students:

Dear OWL Students and Families,

As you probably already know, our community is being invaded by immigration officials. Students at OWL are interested in raising our voices and are organizing a walkout against ICE next Wednesday, January 14th at 12. We will be walking to the State Capitol building and rallying against ICE and gun violence. All high school students are welcome to join, and parents are heavily encouraged to come along for safety purposes. However, all students need to speak with their guardians before making any decisions. We would love to have parent volunteers, and there is a sign up below. If you want to support this project but don't feel comfortable walking out, you could make posters, write messages, or donate snacks. If your student walks out, they will need a ride home, but we will be able to organize carpools if needed. Thank you for your support in our fight against ICE. ---Students at OWL

[Students](#) sign up here if they are interested in joining the walkout.

[Parents](#) sign up here if they can help as adult volunteers to accompany the students.

[Speaking Spreadsheet](#): If you are interested in speaking at the event, use this form.

OWL Crew Parliament: meets in Megan & Akira's science classroom Wednesday during Crew.

Do you have another student who is interested in OWL? Thursday, January 15 at 6:30 PM is a Prospective Family Showcase at OWL. This event 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.

No School on Monday, January 19: MLK Day

OWL 6th Grade Music Exploration and Songwriting showcase Thursday, January 22 from 7-9pm!

The 6th graders will perform drumming, ukulele, and songwriting skills they learned from music exploration in the OWL Theatre from 7-8pm. After the 6th grade performance, the students from the songwriting class will showcase their original songs from 8-9pm in the cafeteria. Come and support the budding music scene at OWL!

Last day of Quarter 2: Thursday, January 29

No School on Friday, January 30: Staff Grading Day

First day of Quarter 3: Monday, February 2

Winter Spirit Week is February 2-6: The themes for each day will be released later in the month.

OWL History Day is Wednesday, February 4 from 5:30-8PM: Come see all the amazing projects prepared by our scholars!

Winter Dance is Friday, February 6 in the OWL Danceteria (cafeteria): Middle School Dance is 5:30-7 PM. High School Dance is 7:30-9:30 PM. Tickets for sale in lunch the week of February 9-13.

OWL Community Group/PTO will meet on Tuesday, February 10 from 6:30-8PM: Everyone is welcome to learn about what is happening at school and offer ideas and feedback. Hope to see you there!

OWL Art Night is Wednesday, February 11 from 6-8 PM: Come celebrate Art at OWL at this new event planned by senior Maddie Linstad.

NAAPID Celebration is Thursday, February 12 from 6-8PM: All are welcome to celebrate African-American Culture at OWL with presentations, activities and a great meal. Hope to see everyone there!

No School on Monday, February 16: Presidents' Day

This month in Crew: OWL Crews are embarking on a two-month lesson series on civic engagement, designed in collaboration with Simmons University, Boston University, and Boston College. Crews are also getting ready to explore the connections between civic engagement and literacy in a school-wide February Read-a-Thon.

SLAC (Student Library Advisory Council) is looking to produce a magazine that is composed of student-made stories, artwork, poetry, and more, about personal experiences that they or a person they know has had with ICE, immigration, or border patrol. Once produced, this magazine will be freely available for anyone to take in the OWL library.

Students may choose to remain anonymous if they'd prefer, and if they choose to make a story about someone that they know, make sure to ask consent before proceeding. We appreciate any and all submissions!

Submit your stories to:

Kmcnamara001@stpaul.k12.mn.us

agottfried001@stpaul.k12.mn.us

alind003@stpaul.k12.mn.us

Do you speak more than one language? It is time to be recognized and earn up to 20 FREE semester college credits per language!

What? A Bilingual Seals assessment is a language proficiency test. The test includes listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Earn your Minnesota Bilingual Seal or Certificate with a qualifying score!

Where? Open World Learning Community

When? April 21

Curious? Have a look at a sample test [HERE](#) or [HERE](#).

Register today! Registration ends **January 31, 2026**.

Assessments are available in:

Amharic • Arabic • ASL • Bulgarian • Czech • Dari • French • German • Hebrew • Hindi • Hmong • Hungarian • Italian • Japanese • Karen • Korean L/Dakota • Mandarin Chinese • Ojibwe • Oromo • Pashto • Portuguese • Russian • Slovak • Somali • Spanish • Swahili • Tamil • Telugu • Ukrainian • Vietnamese

Talk to Tim or Abbie for more information, or email lisa.showers@spps.org

The Assistant Principal HOWL Award theme for January is Integrity!

Ms. Ma'lene will be awarding 1 student who has gone above and beyond showing the HOWL of the month.

Examples of Integrity:

- Being honest
- Avoiding plagiarism
- Doing the right thing when no one is watching
- Admitting mistakes
- Taking ownership of your choices and their consequences
- Treating others with dignity

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 Jan. 14th to be considered for the Assistant Principal January HOWL Award. The winner will be announced at the January community meeting!!

I'm so excited to present this award and to celebrate your hard work!

Good Luck, Ms. Ma'lene

Purple Press Student Newspaper: [CLICK HERE](#) to read the latest issue of the newspaper.

It is not too late to join the High School Robotics Team: You can help us build a robot, program a robot, or drive a robot. Additionally, you don't even have to like robots to join! We have STEM outreach, and a whole business team that is in charge of finding donors and bringing in money. Oh, and 3D printers - we print all kinds of things (in fact, if you need something 3D printed for a class, we can do that too). While this is a 9-12 team, if you are an 8th grader on a Lego League Team and you are interested in joining the team after your season is over, you can do that too! [Sign up here](#).

DONATIONS NEEDED: Looking for a way to support Latino-owned businesses and our West Side neighbors who cannot work or leave their homes to shop: Neighborhood House and El Burrito Mercado are combining strengths to connect culturally relevant foods with Latino families right here in St. Paul.

Here's how you can partner with us:

- Shop at El Burrito Mercado and donate at the collection box inside the store.
- Purchase El Burrito Mercado gift cards [HERE](#) (Recipient: info@elburritomercado.com | Add "Neighborhood House" under Personalize Your Card)). Gift cards are donated directly to Neighborhood House to purchase culturally relevant foods for families.
- Donate directly to Neighborhood House [HERE](#).

This partnership is truly a win-win for our community.

Your kindness and solidarity mean so much. Gracias, thank you, from the bottom of our hearts.

DONATIONS NEEDED--Beads Please: One of OWL's Lego League teams is looking for bead donations. For the past two years team members have made lego league-themed friendship bracelets to hand out to other teams at the competition in January, and they'd love to keep up the

tradition! Wider, colored, pony bead-style in plastic, clay or glass and any letter beads would be much appreciated. They'll give your old beads a new STEM-filled life! Donations can be dropped off in the office or Sorcha's room (3202). Email coach Sorcha Nix with questions (sorcha.nix@spps.org). Thank you!

DONATIONS NEEDED: The Closet - We are collecting items for families who are impacted by recent local events:

Non-perishable food items: Flour, Rice, Maseca Corn Flour, Beans

Hygiene products: full size shampoo/conditioner, soaps including dish, laundry detergent, paper towels, toilet paper

Please bring to room 2209 - Rebekah's classroom

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 II season-

Boys MS Basketball - January 19, 2026 - March 15, 2026

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

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

Join OWL PTO on Facebook: Keep up with what is happening at OWL:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/878792348867374>

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:

Food Resources Information from Ramsey County: Click [HERE](#) for more information

[Give Kids a Smile](#) is a charitable outreach program that provides free dental care to underserved children (typically ages 3-18).



Timothy Leone-Getten

Timothy is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters