

Owatonna Online

Grades 4-6

January 2026

A Message from Our Principal

Happy New Year, Owatonna Online Families!

January always feels like a fresh start, and I love the energy our students bring as they return from winter break. Over the past few weeks, we've seen students re-establish routines, set new goals, and take pride in their learning spaces and daily habits. These small resets truly make a big difference.

Families, thank you for the incredible partnership you provide at home. Whether it's helping your child log in each morning, encouraging them to finish an assignment, or celebrating a learning win (big or small!), your support matters. We know online learning works best when school and home are working together.

Students, you should be proud of yourselves! Many of you are showing growth in reading, problem-solving, and independence. We love seeing students ask questions, try new strategies, and keep going even when learning feels challenging. That's how brains grow!

As we move toward the end of the quarter, this is a great time to check progress, finish any unfinished work, and ask for help when needed. Our teachers are excited to support students through the final stretch and help them start the new quarter feeling confident and ready.

Thank you for being such an important part of the Owatonna Online community. We are proud of our students, grateful for our families, and excited for all that's ahead in 2026!

Warmly,

Learning Updates: Finishing the Quarter Strong

As we move through January, students will:

- Continue working on core reading, writing, and math skills
- Complete assessments and projects that show their learning
- Review progress and set goals for the next quarter

This is a great time for families to:

- Check Infinite Campus | Pearson Connexus for grades and progress
- Encourage daily learning routines
- Help students complete any missing or unfinished work
- Reach out to teachers if questions or support are needed

Small daily effort makes a big difference as we head toward the end of the quarter!

Technology Tips for Cold Weather

Winter weather can sometimes impact technology and internet access.

Families can help by:

- Making sure devices are fully charged each morning
- Restarting devices weekly to keep systems running smoothly
- Keeping devices away from cold windows or drafts
- Reporting tech issues early so learning time isn't lost

If your student experiences ongoing tech challenges, please reach out so we can help troubleshoot. Submit a student tech ticket here: studenthelp.isd761.org.

Communication Is Key

We want families to feel connected and supported.

Please don't hesitate to:

- Reach out to teachers with questions about assignments
- Contact counselors or social workers for academic or social-emotional support
- Let us know if attendance or motivation becomes a challenge

Early communication helps us support students more effectively.

Learning Space Reset Winner!

Congratulations to our Learning Space Reset Winner:

 **Jack Terpstra – Grade 5** 

Jack took time to reset his learning space for the new quarter by organizing his materials, creating a focused workspace, and setting himself up for success. A great learning environment helps students stay focused, motivated, and ready to learn.



Great work, Jack! We are proud of you! 🍌🍌🍌

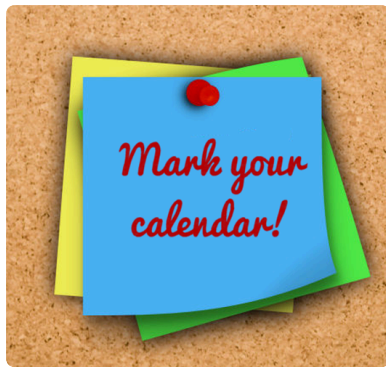
January Family Fun Ideas

Looking for ways to connect and recharge as a family this winter? Try one of these:

-  Build a snowman or go on a winter nature walk
-  Create a cozy family reading night
-  Cook a favorite winter meal together
-  Host a family game or puzzle night
-  Set fun learning goals for the new quarter together

Learning happens best when students feel supported, connected, and encouraged at home. Thank you for being a wonderful partner in your child's education. We are excited to finish the quarter strong and begin a fresh start on January 21!

Important Dates



- **January 5:** Back to School
- **January 16:** End of 2nd Quarter
- **January 19:** No school (Teacher work day)
- **January 20:** No school (Staff Development)
- **January 21:** 3rd Quarter begins
- **February 13:** No school (Gr K-5 Conferences)
- **February 16:** No school (Staff Development)
- **March 26:** End of 3rd Quarter
- **March 27:** No school (Teacher work day)
- **March 30-April 2:** Spring Break
- **April 3:** No school/District closed
- **May 25:** Memorial Day/District closed
- **June 4:** Last day of school

Infinite Campus Log In

Infinite Campus Log In

[Infinite Campus Student Portal](#)



- **The username** is the first part of the student's email address.

(no '@isd761.org' on the end)

- **Password** is the same as the student's Google login (lunch pin).

Student Email Accounts



Students - We email you information often, so please access your email daily! All students have school email accounts and will need to log in daily. Students can do this by doing the following:

Go to gmail.com

Sign in using the following information:

USERNAME: first initial, last name @isd761.org **example:
jdoe@isd761.org

PASSWORD: lunch pin number.

Owatonna Online School Student Handbook

Crisis Response



The crisis response inspires hope in adults, children, youth, and their families by delivering compassionate, person-centered, recovery-based mental health support during a crisis. Please do not hesitate to use this as a resource.
1-844-274-7472

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline



If you need suicide or mental health crisis support or are worried about someone else, please call or text 988 or visit the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline chat to connect with a trained crisis specialist.

Attendance

GENERAL ATTENDANCE LINE- **507-444-8012**

Call between 7:00-9:00 AM or prior to your student's absence.

PARENT PORTAL - Great resource to check your student's attendance!

Review your profile settings regarding automated notifications, current email, and phone numbers.

Owatonna Online STAFF

- Mr. Ruben Alvarez – Teacher (Grades 4–6) (ralvarez1@isd761.org)
 - Liz Morsching – Social Worker (emorsching@isd761.org)
 - Brittney Johnson - Special Education Teacher (bjohnson 11@isd761.org)
 - Mara Shack – Art Teacher (mschack@isd761.org)
 - Luke Holt – Phy Ed Teacher (lholt@isd761.org)
 - Xandra Sorenson – Music Teacher (xsorenson@isd761.org)
 - Jen Lopez – English Language Learner Teacher (jlopez1@isd761.org)
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TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

If you are experiencing a technology issue while learning from home, you can contact the Owatonna Public Schools Technology Department by leaving a message on the Technology Hotline at studenthelp.isd761.org. A member of the Technology Department will contact you as soon as possible during Technology Help Desk hours.



[Technology Help Desk](#)

Technology Help Desk Hours:

Monday - Friday

7:30 am - 3:30 pm

507-444-8630

Important Links

[Facebook](#)

[School Calendars](#)

[Community Flyers/ Peachjar](#)

[Technology and Innovation](#)

[Nutrition Services](#)

[Children's Remedial Fund](#)

Parent Portal

[Campus Parent English](#)

[Campus Parent Spanish](#)

[Campus Parent Somali](#)



Nondiscrimination Policy

Owatonna Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, sexual orientation, age, gender identity or expression, or socio-economic status. Students with disabilities are entitled to a free appropriate public education that includes general education, special education and/or related aids and services. Direct reports or concerns to the Title IX Coordinator. More information can be found on the district website: isd761.org/nondiscrimination



OWATONNA ONLINE 4-12

Dr. Martina Wagner, Principal

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Website: isd761.org

Location: [338 East Main Street, Owatonna, MN, USA](#)

Phone: 507-444-8008

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