OTMS Families,

We hope you are enjoying the long weekend and are excited to start the new school year. This is not the traditional start that any of us had hoped for, but let's pull together and made this a wonderful kickoff!

In this abbreviated edition of the Falcon Flyer you will find a repost of Friday's Back to School message. Please take time to read through the information about in-person distance learning and virtual education. You will also find a few important reminders about the start of the year. We anticipate their may be a few bumps ahead as students, families, and educators adjust to this online format. As such, we will all need to exhibit a little patience and grant one another grace. Finally, as we move through the days and weeks ahead, we will continue to update you via email regarding the latest information you and your student need to successfully navigate the online school environment.

Wishing all of you a fantastic 2020-2021 school year! We are OTMS Proud!

Dr. Trent Stern & Nicole Orrick

Reminders

- Student schedules should now be available in ParentVue or StudentVue. Please know there might be a few errors needing to be cleaned up this week. Also, students may inquire about switching classes ONLY within their current learning mode during the first 5 days of school and only if space is available. Students may not switch from VirtualEd to In-Person or from In-Person to VirtualEd at this time. Please contact your student's counselor with questions.
- Canvas courses will be available to students no later than 1:00 pm tomorrow, Tuesday, Sept. 8 (if not sooner). Students will need to access their Canvas courses to review messages from teachers, check Zoom times, and more.
- 6th Grade AND New Student Orientation is scheduled for 8:00 am tomorrow, Tuesday, Sept. 8 via Zoom. Please review Friday's Back to School message for the Zoom link and password. Families are welcome to join their students. This orientation is for all 6th grade students and any 7th or 8th grader who is new to Blue Valley.
- Please make sure your child's Chromebook has been charged and is in working order. If your device is not working, please submit a BV CARE ticket. This process is outlined in Friday's message. Unfortunately, at this time we do not have any extra Chromebooks at OTMS so we are unable to make a quick exchange. By submitting a BV CARE ticket, you will work through our district's IT department to resolve your issue. Our apologies in advance for the inconvenience.
- Students are required by the state, district and school to attend all classes (via Zoom). Please know that we understand there will be a few challenges to overcome during these first few days.
Please Welcome New Staff

Jim Cowan, Paraeducator  
Dan Margolis, 8th Grade English Language Arts  
Molly Miller, 8th Grade Math  
Nicole Orrick, Assistant Principal  
Roxanne Quinn, Counselor  
Amy Rouse, 6th Grade Science  
Janelle Samuel, Reading Specialist  
Tammy Seeley, Paraeducator  
Jennifer Smith, Instructional Design Coach  
Liz Schuller, Strings  
Ashley Vining, 6th Grade Science & English Language Arts

Back to School Message (Originally Sent 9.4.2020)

We are looking forward to getting the school year underway! Linked below are two documents that provide a significant amount of “back to school” information. Please take time to carefully read through the appropriate document so that your student can be prepared to successfully access Canvas courses and live Zoom sessions next week.

Student schedules will be available through ParentVue on Saturday, September 5. Canvas courses can be accessed on Tuesday, September 8 by 1:00 PM. Within the documents linked below you will also find instructions to access the live Zoom Orientation for 6th grade & new students ONLY at 8:00 AM on September 8. Please choose the appropriate document based on your registration selection (in-person or VirtualEd). Reminder: prior to the first day of school, please make sure Chromebooks are fully charged!

The strength of our school community has been our ability to work together. We will lean heavily on that strength as we move forward. Every effort will be made to ensure our students receive the exceptional education you have come to expect. Thank you for your grace, encouragement and support. We can do this OTMS!

LINKS:

1) In-Person link for those families who selected “in-person” learning mode. While we are beginning the year in “distance” learning mode, this document is for you!

2) VirtualEd link for those families who selected “virtual” learning mode.

Sincerely,

Dr. Trent Stern & Nicole Orrick