



STATE OF THE PIONEER

Olentangy Orange High School Staff Newsletter

November 11 - November 15, 2024

WORDS FROM MONICA ASHER

I have struggled this week to find the right words for the SOP. I can't write a message that pretends like the election didn't happen; especially when so many of you are struggling with how to move forward. I know you are struggling with how to move forward with your students who are afraid, but also how to move forward with colleagues that don't share your views. This week, I saw pain, uncertainty, and division. I have to be honest, I am not entirely sure how to tell you how to move forward. What I can tell you is that I am here with you and my values have not changed. I recognize that leadership is tested during tough times...anyone can lead when it is easy and I grew up not wanting to be just anyone. I grew up wanting to be someone. Someone who made a difference.

Know that Orange will continue to be a place where students, *all students*, find safety. It will continue to be a place that not only values diversity, but celebrates it. Orange will continue to be a place where showing compassion and respect to those around us is a priority, where we recognize the humanity, dignity, and worth in every person we meet. It will continue to be a place where we support and uplift others.

There is a lot that I don't know, but here is what I do know...I know we have a building full of people who love kids and who want to make a difference. That said, I ask you to join me and move like buffalo through a storm. Rather than running away from a storm, buffalo typically face it head-on. They take stock of the direction the storm is moving, gather together with their herd, and move directly into it. They stick together for protection, with the stronger individuals leading and guiding the group, ensuring that the younger and weaker members are kept safe. Moving towards a storm seems a little strange, but they do this because they know that the first place where there will be light is directly on the other side of the storm clouds.

The buffalo's resilience, unity, and strength is drawn from working as a collective. By working together, we can also face any challenge. We can support one another and create an environment where both we and our students thrive. We can move towards the light AND we can create the light; we don't need to wait for it to come to us. I continue to be proud to be your principal, and proud to be a part of your herd.

STAFF CHILI COOK OFF - FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15

- One of the HOTTEST events of the year
- Whether you want to *Cook & Compete*... or just Want to Eat, you're bound to have a whole lotta FUN!
- Friday, November 15, Room 1009, during LUNCH periods
- Check out this [LINK](#) to sign up today!

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, November 11th: Veteran's Day Assembly during SS classes

Tuesday, November 12th: Senior Portraits Dress Up Day #2

Friday, November 15th: Staff Chili Cook Off

Monday, November 18th: Fire Drill, start of 3rd period



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Tuesday, November 20th: Senior Thanksgiving Lunch

FIELD TRIPS THIS WEEK

[11/15/24 Mark Wood Workshop \(Orchestra\) \(140\) \(Cornett\) \(9:40-12pm\)](#)

GUEST AUTHOR THE SOP

If you have a story or a lesson you've learned that you would love to share, reach out to Monica Asher to be a guest author in the SOP! Your voice, your story matters and we would love to hear from you!

ENTERING ABSENCES IN FRONTLINE - CERTIFIED STAFF

- Certified Staff absences requiring a substitute must be entered into Frontline as a Half-Day or Full-Day request.
- Substitutes are only paid as a Half-Day or Full-Day assignment, they cannot be assigned to Custom-Days, including Quarter-Day absences.
- If you are taking a Quarter-Day absence (2-hours), you are responsible to find coverage for that time. Enter your absence in Frontline and select - No Sub Required..
- If you have questions, please check with Ryan Sparks or Brigitte Sindeldecker BEFORE entering your absence in Frontline.

CLASSROOM USE OF STREAMING SERVICES

Showing consumer media like movies, documentaries, and TV shows in the classroom has always had district rules and guidance. However, as most media have moved over to streaming services the popularity of these services may have caused previous rules and guidance to be disregarded or forgotten.

Modern streaming services (Netflix, Disney+, Prime Video, etc.) are licensed to individuals for their personal use. Using a streaming service in a classroom or other setting outside your home is almost always a violation of that service's Terms of Service. These sites remain open as staff can access content personally during non-work time available to them, however this access does not indicate that these services are approved for use with students.

Going forward technical support for these and other streaming services will be given lower priority over approved resources and other classroom technology needs. This allows us to ensure we remain good stewards of district resources. Staff should ensure they are familiar with district guidance around the use of copyrighted materials and other media in the classroom.

QUICK LINKS

[OOHS 2024-2025 Building Calendar](#)

[Professional Leave Request Form](#)

[2024-2025 Teacher Finder](#)

[Discipline Referral Form](#)

[Testing Center Form](#)

[Club Meetings](#)

[Field Trip Folder](#)



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STAFF BIRTHDAYS

November 2024

Records Kept for
Admin-
Convenience Only;
Non-Records that
do not document a
function of the
public office

