



Summer Newsletter 2016

Olympia CUSD 16
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2015-2016 Olympia Highlights

Students and teachers celebrated many successes this school year, below is a sample:

- 17 All Academic Teams as recognized by the IHSA
- 14 Illinois State Scholars
- Regional and Sectional Titles for OHS Wrestling Team – Elite Eight Appearance
- OHS- Three State qualifiers (two medalists) for Individual State Wrestling
- OHS- Three State qualifiers (one State runner-up) in Speech Individual Events
- OHS- Three all-State Group Interpretation cast members
- OHS- State appearance by Cross Country, Group Interp, Wrestling teams
- OHS- Four State qualifiers (two medalists) in Track
- OHS- Fifth place individual finish in IHSA Cross Country Meet
- Pantagraph Fan Frenzy Award Winner
- Final four IHSA Student Showdown
- FFA State winner in Creed Speaking
- OMS Chorus Division 1 Rating at IGSMMA Competition
- 7th Grade Girls Basketball Team– 4th Place in State
- OMS- One State qualifier for Individual State Wrestling
- OMS– Three State qualifiers in IESA Cross Country Meet
- OMS– Medaled in seven events at the IESA State Track Meet



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Olympia Welcomes New Teachers & Administrators to the District

The Olympia School District is excited to welcome the following teachers to the school district for the start of the 2016-2017 school year:

Olympia North- Kaitlin Reid (2nd Grade)

Olympia South- Brittany Read (Pre-K/ECE), Mary Copeland (4th Grade), Sophia Bellotti (2nd Grade)

Olympia West– Lisa Castleman (Principal), Catherine Jennings (3rd Grade), Lisa Byrd (Pre-K, ECE)

Olympia Middle School– Mark Frederick (PE), Jake Steve (6th Grade Science and Social Studies), Brad Jacobson (Social Studies)

Olympia High School– Jamie Benjamin (Science), Mike Castleman (Activities Director), Kelly Cummings (Business), Lyndi Schiff (Special Education)

We would like to thank all of our constituents for supporting the district financially during these tough economic times.

New Dismissal Times For Elementary Students

Starting on the first day of school (Wednesday, August 17th) Olympia Elementary students will be dismissed at a later time than years past. The new dismissal time for all elementary buildings will be at 2:25 p.m. This new time will be for all bus riders and walkers. There will not be a different dismissal time for walkers and bus riders any longer.

When students return to school in August their teachers and Principals will review all dismissal procedures for students to ensure a safe departure from school each day. The school day for elementary students will now be 8:00 a.m. until 2:25 p.m. The doors to the elementary schools open at 7:45 a.m. and the tardy bell rings at 8:00 a.m.

The start and dismissal times for Middle School and High School students remain the same. Their school day runs from 8:25 a.m. until 3:15 p.m.

Skills Based Reporting at Olympia Schools

Starting in the 2016-2017 school year, progress for all students in grades K-8 will be reported based on each student's demonstration of selected skills for each course. Teachers across the district have spent considerable time identifying essential skills for all of the subjects. Student progress will be reported as a 4 (Advanced Skill Demonstration), 3 (Skill Attainment), 2 (Approaching Skill Attainment), or a 1 (Beginning Skill Attainment). For elementary students, this is similar to how progress has been reported for the past several years. The upcoming school year will be the first time students in Middle School will utilize this system.

Students in K-8 will also have progress reported on five essential skills for learning and success; respect, responsibility, perseverance, collaboration, and self-advocacy. The performance levels for these five indicators will be reported as "mostly", "sometimes", or "rarely".

In order to prepare for this transition, Olympia teachers have attended several professional conferences put on by industry experts such as Dr. Thomas Guskey. Teachers have collaborated with each other following these conferences to ensure that the information is being shared with as many teachers as possible. Some teachers have also participated in book studies to ensure they are employing the latest research in order to help students grow.



Congratulations Olympia's 2015-2016 Retirees

The Olympia District would like to congratulate the retirees for 2015-2016. We want to thank these dedicated individuals for all they have done for the district and the students of the district. We wish them all a very lengthy, happy, and healthy retirement.

From left to right: Pat Peiffer, Mary Idleman, Joan Tracy, Vicki Griffin, Patti Higgins, Sue Schwoerer, Joyce Strubhar, Deb Schultz. Not pictured: Sylvia Johanson, Marvin Tucker, Eileen Knobeloch, Shirley Dobson, Vicky Shaffer

Olympia's Mission:

The Olympia Community inspires, educates, and challenges each student to achieve personal success.

Propane Buses

Propane buses continue to be a cost savings for the Olympia School District transportation department. The district currently owns 12 propane buses, with an annual cost savings of \$33,000. This figure is compared to the traditional diesel bus engines. Overall maintenance and fuel costs are substantially less with the propane buses and are responsible for this monetary savings. Over a 10 year timeframe the district will see an overall cost savings of \$334,241. This is a critical cost savings for the district considering the number of miles that these buses will travel to transport Olympia students.

Immunization Update

For the 2016-2017 school year, Olympia CUSD #16 is requiring all incoming Kindergartners, 6th graders, and 9th graders to have proof of required immunizations to their school **no later than September 15, 2016**. Students that do not have their immunizations by this date will be excluded from school until they have received the proper immunizations, and presented this information to their respective school. Please schedule an appointment as soon as possible to get this taken care of so your child has an excellent start to the upcoming school year!

Latest ACT Results Demonstrate Academic Excellence

Preliminary scores from ACT have been released to schools for the 2015-2016 testing year. Olym-

piatna students on average have performed significantly higher than students in the State with an average composite score of 21.73. For Olympia, this is a .73 increase over last year's score. Olympia also scored significantly higher than State averages in the areas of English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science. Olympia again tested everyone this year although the State did not require it...many districts in the State will have significantly higher averages because they only tested those true college bound juniors, but Olympia continues to test all indicating that the majority of our students will benefit from the score when going to a university,



Access Your Student's Progress

Did you know that with Skyward Family Access you can access your child's ...

Grades

Missing Academic Work

Attendance

Discipline

Achievement Data

Breakfast and Lunch Purchases

Report Cards and much more....



We encourage all parents and students to download the Skyward App for their Smart Phones. This will help all students take increase their ownership of learning by having all of this information on their phone. Please contact Olympia Technology Director Scott Powers for login and password assistance (1.309.379.6011 ext. 1110).

Olympia Hall of Fame Class of 2016

The Olympia Hall of Fame was established to honor outstanding achievement by individuals, coaches/sponsors, teams/groups, or friends of the Olympia High School. On May 15th, 2016, the following individuals were elected into the class of 2016 Olympia's Hall of Fame:

Mrs. Allison Yoder-Bonga—Class of 1995, Allison placed third at State in Speech and was involved in Band, Choir, NHS, and several other activities throughout her time at OHS.

Mrs. Lynda Lane— Retired teacher from Olympia, dedicated countless hours to the fine arts at Olympia

Lt. Col. Donald Kent Carpenter— Class of 1983, received numerous military awards and decorations from the Air Force

2009 OHS Boys Track Team—This team placed 3rd at the IHSA Class 1A State meet and won the IHSA Sectional Class 1A Meet.

2002 Girls Cross Country Team— placed 2nd at IHSA State Meet, 1st at Sectionals, and 2nd in the Cornbelt Conference

For nomination forms, please contact Mr. Castleman at 309.379.6011 ext. 9012 or visit the Olympia website www.olympia.org.

Olympia's Vision:

Olympia strives to be an exemplary school district with an unparalleled reputation for maximizing student learning.

Back to School and Registration Tips

Olympia students will be heading back to the classrooms on Wednesday, August 17, with bus transportation, breakfast, and lunch available. Below are important dates and highlights of 2016-17 Registration.

July 1-31 Online registration open for returning students. New students must register on August 2nd. If your family does not have internet access, please register online at your local library or your school on August 2nd.

August 2 New student walk-in registration for Elementary and Middle School students is from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. Please call 309-379-5911 ext. 9023 for your new High School student appointment after August 1.

August 15 Incoming sixth graders and parents will attend a Back to School Night from 6:00 to 7:00 pm at Olympia Middle School.

August 16 Incoming Freshmen will attend Freshman Flight School beginning at 12:45 p.m. Bus transportation will be provided from bus stop locations only.

August 16 Each school building will have an Open House. Elementary schools will be open from 4:30 p.m.-6:00p.m., the Middle School and High School will be open from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

August 17 First Day of student attendance

Returning students' families will register online through Skyward Family Access with the same login and password they are currently using. If you do not know your password, please contact Tech Director Scott Powers at 309-379-6011 ext. 1110 or email at scott.powers@olympia.org.



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