

THE KNIGHTLY NEWS

Principal: Dr. Danny Medved

Assistant Principals:
Jason Eiding, Lisa Holst

Dear Orchard Mesa Families,

I hope you are entering the Thanksgiving break with much to celebrate and to reflect on. At Orchard Mesa Middle School (OMMS) we have much to celebrate and be thankful for. First, I continue to be inspired by the efforts that our committed staff put forward to serve our over 570 students day-in and day-out. One example of this commitment is our staff's dedication to amplify student voices and grow student leadership in our school. This year we have over 80 students in leadership spread across four different leadership groups: Student Government, Cavalry, Sources of Strength, and Young Men's Leadership. Each of these groups provides our young people opportunities to reflect on who they want to be as a leader and ways our school can improve. More importantly, these groups teach students to initiate actions for the betterment of themselves and others. A prime example of this happening right now is our Sources of Strength group, which is running a gratitude campaign over the next week. This campaign is helping each member of our school to recognize the good people and things in their lives by showing gratitude for them. Student leadership is here to stay at OMMS!. Please keep following this story as it unfolds this year and in years to come.

Another gratitude I want to share is the parent engagement we have seen this year. First we have seen strong participation from our Parent Teacher Association (PTA). Our PTA has helped us get our concession standing up and running. It also approved funding for our three Lego League robotics teams that are competing in the month of November. Additionally, we have seen intentional parent engagement in our Challenge Forward visioning process that began this fall and will run throughout this school year. We want the Challenge Program to become an integrated and supported program within our broader OMMS school programming and culture. Parents and teachers are volunteering time to help assess where the Challenge Program is at and where we hope it will go over the next five years.

Our parents are our partners in supporting and preparing their students, so each of our students can have a bright future. Sometimes we partner with parents to celebrate students' progress and other times it is to plan support when a student is having difficulty. Maintaining a strong school-family partnership is a priority at OMMS and we appreciate the efforts that parents put into ensuring that their student is respectful and engaged at school.

Please see below for a list of other important events and information to be aware of as we finish out these last few weeks of the second quarter. As always you can reach out with questions. Thank you for partnering with us in your child's education.

Go Knights!

Respectfully,

Danny
Dr. Danny Medved
Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

11/15 8th Grade Options Fair
Field Trip

11/16 Honor Orchestra @ CMU

11/17-18 Select Band

11/20-11/24 NO SCHOOL
FALL BREAK

12/5 8th Grade STEM Parent Night
6pm



Mrs. Bloxham would like photos from sporting events, school activities, concerts, and field trips to add to the yearbook. Parents and students, if you are at an event and are able to get pictures, please send them to sarah.bloxham@d51schools.org and indicate the event.

Athletics

Boy's Basketball
Post-Season
Schedule TBD

11/27 - First Day
of Girl's
Basketball -
Schedule
COMING SOON

Attendance Reminder

All student absences must be called in by 9:00 am. If you aren't able to speak to a secretary then please leave a detailed message. Please include the student's first and last name and specific reason that your child is absent.

Please notify the office within 48 hours of the absence.

Attendance Office number: 970-254-6320 ext: 38100

Thank you.



Student Fees

There is a \$42.00 instructional fee for every student.

The instructional fee covers a portion of the cost of materials that are expendable and consumable and/or items students will retain after the class, such as art supplies, computer and technology supplies, planners, and science lab supplies. Fees can be paid at the Main Office or online at MyPaymentsPlus.com.

Other Student Fees

\$100 instrument fee (Band/Orchestra Students)

\$70 Athletic Participation (If your student is playing a sport 7th and 8th grade only)

\$25 Yearbook (Optional)

Please reach out to Lindsey Wyser -
Lindsey.Wyser@d51schools.org with any questions or concerns regarding student fees.

GIVEBACK to schools
Office Depot OfficeMax

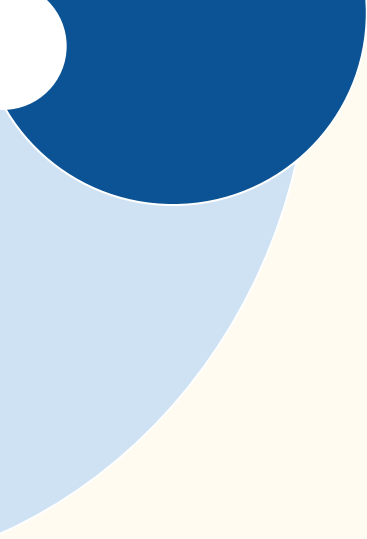
Simply make a purchase of qualifying products, provide our school ID at checkout & we'll receive 5% back in credits for FREE supplies.

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GVT Bus Passes

Our partners at Grand Valley Transit will again offer free GVT bus passes for D51 middle (need to verify middle school) and high school students this year. In order for your child to receive a free bus pass, you must first fill out a [form online](#).

Everything you write on the form is completely secure and confidential. The form will be used to determine TANF eligibility, which will help GVT recoup funding and keep the program going. You or your child can pick up the bus pass (which is a sticker for their student ID) from your child's school, any Mesa County public library, GVT Downtown or West Transfer Facility.



**TODAY, JUST LIKE EACH AND EVERYDAY, IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE AN ORCHARD MESA KNIGHT!
GO KNIGHTS!**