

Dr. Susan Birdsey, Principal  
Jason Eiding, Assistant Principal  
Linsey Wyser, Secretary  
Joni Spence, Attendance Secretary

School District Website: [www.mesa.k12.co.us](http://www.mesa.k12.co.us)  
OMMS Website: <http://omms.mesa.k12.co.us/>



## February/March 2020

\*February 17—No School

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\*March 11 - Last day of the quarter

\*March 12 - No school - Teacher Work Day

\*March 13 - No school - Teacher In-Service



### A note from the principal. . .

First I want to thank everyone with all the help during Drop Off and Pick Up. We've been collaborating with our SRO and Security Team, parents, staff, and students to come up with the best system. Things have been running much more smoothly and we really appreciate everyone's patience. Mornings can be very hectic so we are grateful to you for following the directions, being patient, and keeping students safe! Below is a reminder of the drop off and pick up system.

#### Drop Off:

Parents should pull into the parking lot and drive around to the drop off lane in front of the school. **Students should not exit the vehicle until after the car has moved to the west side of the cross walk on the drive in front of the main entrance.** We do not want students dropped off in the lot and walking through the lot on their own. If parents want to park in the lot and safely walk their student to the front sidewalk that is fine. We know our parking lots get busy at drop off and pick up and we do not want to have any accidents so it is important to help students get to the sidewalk safely.

#### Pick up:

Parents should pull all the way in and students should quickly exit the building and load into the car. Again, students should not walk through the parking lot. If parents want to park their car and walk up to the building to safely walk with their child back to the car that is fine.

The transition to the new building has gone relatively smoothly. We are beginning to work out the kinks and getting more comfortable in our new home. Students and staff have worked together to create SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) and expectations for classrooms and common areas. We are getting into a routine with safety and security as a top priority. Please remind your students that following SOPs leads to a better, safer climate and culture for all.

We are excited to announce a chapter of the MESA club is starting at OMMS. Mesa 51 graduate, Victoria Chavez is going to be the club sponsor. Victoria is currently working as a mechanical engineer and was a MESA club student all through middle school and high school. She is really excited to start a club at OMMS and students got to see a presentation about MESA Feb 6th and 7th. The first meeting is Thursday Feb 13 and they will meet every Thursday afterschool. If interested there are fliers in the office with more information for students and families.

There is a lot going on for our 8th graders as they begin to get ready for the transition to high school. Counselors have been meeting with them regarding their high school and beyond plans. Please let our counselors know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks for being such great partners with us. Your support to both your child and our staff makes it all possible. If there is ever anything you need from us please feel free to reach out! We all have the same goal and we will get there if we work together. Thanks for sharing the "love of your life" with us everyday. It is truly an honor to be a part of these kiddos lives!

Dr. Susan Birdsey

Principal, Orchard Mesa Middle School  
(970) 254-6320 Ext. 38017



For showing qualities of an  
OMMS Knight:

- \*Honor
- \*Empathy
- \*Courage
- \*Persistence
- \*Work ethic
- \*Kindness
- \*Respectful
- \*Responsible

Teacher of the Month:

Jen Schumann

6th

So-



## Riverside Educational Center

**OFFERS:** homework help & tutoring,  
games, activities, & field trips.

**Where:** OMMS Library

**When:** Monday thru Thursday

**Hours:** 2:45 to 5:15

**FREE!**

\*Pick up a registration packet from  
the OMMS Office

### ***Support your school sport teams!***

\*Wrestling has started, check web-  
site for schedule.



**Make a Report  
Make a Difference  
Safe2telco.org  
1-877-542-7233**



Hard to believe that February is already here! Winter can be a hard time of year with the cold weather, the recent lack of sunny days, and the increases in illness. If you find yourself or family member a bit down, try to be more active OUTSIDE, and focus on getting better nutrition and more water! This isn't a cure all, but it can help! We have had an increase in students roaming around after we have sent them home. Please do not have your student wandering the halls trying to get homework or notifying coaches or athletics of the illness. If we are sending your student home, please email teachers for your student's work or ask for our help in emailing. We can also notify teachers and coaches from here for you as well. As you may have heard in the news, there have been confirmed cases of the flu in Mesa County. Influenza or "the Flu" is a respiratory illness that is contagious. It is a virus that is spread by droplets when a person coughs, sneezes, or talks. Signs and symptoms of the flu may include: fever or feeling feverish, chills, cough, sore throat, muscle or body aches, headaches, runny or stuffy nose, feeling very tired, vomiting or diarrhea (more common in children). A person may be contagious before they know they are sick. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), a person may spread the flu virus one day before they begin to have symptoms and up to five to seven days after they become sick. This is why washing hands is so important! Ways to prevent the flu include a yearly flu vaccine, frequent handwashing, staying away from people who are sick, and covering coughs and sneezes. If your child should develop flu-like symptoms, it is important they stay hydrated by drinking fluids and that they are getting plenty of rest. If you should have any questions or concerns, contact their health care provider. During this time, your child should stay home and rest. They should not return to school until they have been fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication. For information about the flu, contact your child's primary care provider or go to: [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu)

**Stay well from your child's school  
health office!**