



Old Orchard Junior High School
9310 Kenton Avenue
Skokie, Illinois 60076-1397
Telephone: 847/676-9010
Fax: 847/676-3827
Robyn Hawley, Principal
Rob McElligott, Assistant Principal
Andy Carpenter, Dean of Students

Special 8th Grade Newsletter

As we approach the mid-point of the school year, we would like to take this opportunity to provide you with some important information and reminders about upcoming activities and events for 8th grade students and their families.

8th Grade Graduation Pictures – Friday, January 20, 2012

Enclosed with this letter, please find information regarding graduation pictures that are scheduled for Friday, January 20th. All eighth grade students will have their picture taken regardless of whether or not you intend to purchase pictures. Each family will receive a proof package approximately two to three weeks after picture day. The proofs will be sent home with your child. Pricing information will accompany the proof package. You will be responsible for returning the proofs whether or not you intend to purchase a picture package. There is no need to send money on picture day.

Each student will be dressed in an OOHJ graduation gown, provided by the photographer, for their individual picture and two poses will be taken. Please make sure that your eighth grade student is dressed appropriately for these pictures. Bulky sweaters, sweatshirts and turtlenecks should be avoided. It is highly recommended that boys wear a shirt with a collar. They may also wish to wear a tie. Pictures will be taken throughout the school day and your student will be given a specific appointment time from their teachers.

If you have any questions about picture day, please feel free to contact Mrs. Atkinson in the Main Office (Extension 7515).

8th Grade Graduation – May 30, 2012

Please be sure to mark Wednesday, May 30th on your calendar for our 8th grade graduation. The ceremony will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium at Niles West High School. It is tradition that the PTA sponsors a reception immediately following the ceremony at OOHJ. More information on the graduation ceremony will be mailed home this spring.

Graduation Gowns

To participate in the ceremony all students must wear a graduation gown. Boys wear purple gowns and girls wear white gowns. No caps will be worn. The cost of these retainable gowns is \$16.75. There will be a separate mailing on January 13th that will include an order form for your gown purchase.

If you have any questions about the graduation gowns, please feel free to contact Mrs. Atkinson in the Main Office (Extension 7515).

High School Registration Activities

Preparation for high school registration with Niles Township District 219 is well underway. Several programs are planned during the month of February to help acquaint you and your child with the high school program. Please be sure you have the following dates on your calendars:

Tuesday, February 7th 6:30 p.m. NNHS Curriculum & Activities Night
Course books, counselor assignments, and course recommendations will be distributed. Students are invited to attend and must be accompanied by a least one parent. Families will also receive their counselor appointment at this event.

February 22nd & 23rd all day Counselor Appointments at NNHS
Parents and students meet with their counselor at the high school at an assigned time during the day to register for classes. Parents must pick up their children from OOJH, signing him/her out. Your appointment time will be assigned by NNHS and provided to you at the February 8th "NNHS Curriculum and Activities" program.

More information will be sent to you by NNHS. If you have any questions regarding these programs please call NNHS.

Academic Requirements

Students are expected to pass their academic classes. Students who fail two or more classes in a single trimester will be required to participate in the After-School Program which meets three days per week throughout the next trimester. Students who fail two or more academic classes in the regular school year may be required to participate in a tuition-based District 68 summer program in order to be promoted to the next grade level. Eighth grade students not meeting academic requirements **will not** be allowed to participate in the 8th grade graduation ceremony. Please help us ensure that your child is successful in school by working with your student and his/her teachers. If you have any questions regarding your child's progress during the year, please contact his/her teachers directly.

The second half of the 8th grade year goes by quickly. There are many exciting events for 8th graders in anticipation of their graduation from their elementary school years. We look forward to celebrating this occasion with you in May. If you have any questions, please contact us in the Main Office.