

Olathe West Families-

Okay! Okay! I shouldn't have ever doubted you! I tried to get cute to see who all was reading my newsletter and 347 email replies later - it was clear I either made a huge tactical mistake or a brilliant move! I will let you decide! The first 5 replies were contacted and I am sorry that I couldn't reply to each and every one of you! I will do it again soon. I actually got some hilarious responses! You guys are pretty funny. This week I just may stick to a dad joke at the end of the newsletter.

We started yesterday with the full staff. It was a lot of fun and they are excited to be back and ready to get things rolling again! I have attached a video here: <https://youtu.be/21jEWqGc15M?feature=shared> that a few of our teachers put together. It really gives a great look at what our OW community is all about! West is Best!

I had one error in my last week's bulletin. **The Freshman first day on August 13th dismisses at 12:15pm.** Honestly, I looked at my half day chart and typed the wrong time. Please update your calendars and I am sorry about that.

Grades 10-12 students need to charge and restart their computers this weekend. Restart the computer - but do not select the "power off" feature. The restart will allow the computer to complete several updates before school starts!

Follow me on X Twitter @OWNovacekOwls and also AD Butler @ADButlerOW. You will then be able to see who we follow and get connected with almost every activity and team at OW. A great way to stay in touch and know what's going on daily!

### **Things you need to know this week:**

**1. Freshman Computer Checkout** - 9th graders will receive their laptops during the first week of school. They will be checked out during your student's science class. There is nothing that parents need to do prior to this.

**2. Freshman StudentVue Logins** - Freshman passwords are reset between middle school and high school. Students will receive a new password when they checkout their computers. Student schedules can still be accessed through ParentVue. **Please screenshot and text your student's schedule to them for the first day or feel free to print it for them!**

**3. Transfer or New to OW Students** - Students who will be new to Olathe West and are in grades 10-12 are invited for a short orientation and tour on August 13 from 9am – 10:30am. Students can enter Olathe West through the main entrance on the east side of the building. Assistant Principal Pat Butler will meet with them and give a tour of the building. These students will also checkout their laptops the first week of school.

**4. College Credit in High School** - Parents of students enrolled in an AP or [College Now](#) course this year are highly encouraged to attend "College Now & AP Explained" on August 18 at 5:00 pm in the Flex Theatre. Questions about these programs can be directed to your student's [counselor](#).

**5. School Pictures** - for 9-11<sup>th</sup> grades will be on August 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. More information about orders will be coming soon.

**6. Athletic and Activity Calendar** - Olathe West will have a new athletic and activities webpage which will include our school calendar: <https://gobound.com/ks/schools/olathewesths>. The calendar will also be embedded within the main Olathe West webpage. Search the Apple or Android app store for "Bound Sports" to add the app to your phone for quick and easy access to our school calendar, to purchase tickets to athletic events, and to access information regarding athletics and activities.

**7. Athletic Registration** - Athletic Registration for the upcoming 2025-26 school year will be completed using your ParentVUE user ID and Password. Instructions for this process are attached. ***If you have not completed the physical form for sports participation, DO NOT BEGIN the Athletic Registration, and go directly to Online Registration to enroll your student. Families can return to the site to complete athletic registration at any time.*** All athletic physicals must be dated after May 1, 2025. Email Athletic Director Pat Butler ([prbutler@olatheschools.org](mailto:prbutler@olatheschools.org)) with questions.

**8. Athletic Passes** - Athletic Passes for the 2025-26 athletic season are now available on our new athletic website: <https://www.gobound.com/ks/schools/olathewesths/tickets>. Athletic Passes are available for both adults and students. Passes allow entry into all REGULAR SEASON athletic events in the Olathe School District.

**9. Xello Family Account** - If you haven't set up your family Xello account yet, you will receive an email from Xello.world soon. Xello helps students explore careers that align with their skills and interests. Click the link to learn more. Counselors will be available in the commons during Back to School Night on August 18th to answer any questions. [Xello for families](#) [Xello para familias](#)

**10. Freshman First Day** - The 9th graders first day is August 13th. This is a half day from 7:40am - 12:15pm. This is an orientation day and only our 9th graders will attend this day.

**11. Yard Signs** - Yes - you can order them! See attachment for directions!

**12. First Day of School - All Students** - The school year starts for all students August 14th. This is a full day and we will be on a 7 period day.

**13. Freshmen Parent Meeting / Student Mixer** - We will have a 9th grade parent meeting on August 13th at 6pm in the auditorium. While the parents attend the meeting, our 9th grade students will have a welcome mixer. We will have a DJ and treats available. Please join us to learn all things OW and also bring your 9th grader!

**14. Back to School Night** - We will have our meet the teacher night on August 18th at 6pm. Parents will walk their student's schedule and meet all of the teachers. Please have your student's schedule on your phone or printed. We will not have schedules available. We hope you join us! Always a fun night!

**15. Attention, 11th and 12th graders interested in the ACT Prep/College Readiness course-** This course can help improve test-taking strategies, boost confidence, and raise your ACT scores. Contact your counselor to see if it fits into your schedule.

Okay - that's it from me!

Dad joke of the week: I only seem to get sick on weekdays. I must have a weekend immune system.

Have a good weekend. Holler if you need me.

Jay Novacek  
Principal

**Attachments:**

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