

## Olathe West Families-

Happy Friday and welcome to the 2025-26 school year! To our freshmen parents, this email is my newsletter called Words from the West. I will send it out every Friday - with a few Thursdays mixed in - until we end school in May! Administrators have been back a few weeks, counselors are here, and new teachers report on August 1st! Veteran teachers join us the following week on August 6th. I am excited to get things up and running again very soon! Though I do realize the kids may not have those same feelings! A lot of information this week, so please check it out!

### Things you need to know this week:

**1. Student Schedules** - Schedules will be released and available through StudentVue on July 28th! Please have your student check their account to see class schedules and teacher names. I have had a few emails about freshmen "walking their schedules." You are welcome to come up this week and do this between 10am and 1pm. I will say - we move rooms all year so though the room numbers on the schedule are accurate and where they will start the first day - they will not be in those same rooms for very long!

**2. Senior Yearbook Portraits** - Senior yearbook pictures will be taken on August 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> from 8am – 3pm in the auditorium. This photo sitting is the formal senior yearbook picture so ties and more formal dress are appropriate. This is a free photo and there is no purchase required. These photos are for the yearbook headshots only. Sign-ups are also not required so please come dressed to impress for your senior yearbook photo. If you cannot make it for pictures on these dates, students will be able to take the photo during regular school picture days for underclassmen on August 20th.

**3. 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.

**4. 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.

**5. Online Registration** - Registration is now open for the 2025-26 school year! About 600 of you still need to register so please help us get this completed this week!

**6. Freshman First Day** - The 9th graders first day is August 13th. This is a half day from 7:40am - 10:55am. This is an orientation day and only our 9th graders will attend this day.

**7. 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.

**8. 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!

**9. 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!

**10. 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.

That is it for this week! Enjoy the last few weeks of summer! Please start marking dates down as we crank this thing up! Let's go Owls!

Holler if you need me.

Jay Novacek  
Principal