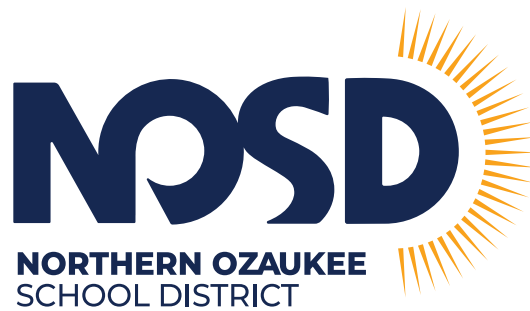


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**NORTHERN OZAUKEE
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Fall/Winter 2023

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VISIT
www.nosd.edu
for more
information.



Dear NOSD families and community,

On behalf of the Northern Ozaukee School District, thank you for taking the time to read our NOSD Fall/Winter Newsletter. In the midst of many challenges in our world, we get to hear story after story of students who currently attend NOSD or have graduated from our school and are making a positive impact in our workforce and in our communities. We are proud to provide a great education in a family friendly environment for students from 4K through 12th grade on a central campus. The impacts our young people are making are a direct reflection of our many great students, outstanding staff members, awesome families, and a supportive community.

This newsletter provides a glimpse of just a few of the great things happening in our schools. Some of the highlights include our focus on outdoor learning, technical education and career ready classes, community partnerships, a District finance snapshot, updates from our principals, and our Warrior pride highlights.

Through a wide range of ways we communicate with our students and families this newsletter represents another way to keep our greater community informed. We will be sending out a District wide newsletter two times each year. Thank you for all that you do each day to support our students and our schools. Go Warriors!



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Karrels".

Dave Karrels
Superintendent

EMBRACING THE GREAT OUTDOORS:

The Transformative Power of Outdoor Learning

There is a fundamental shift happening at the Northern Ozaukee School District to get our students learning and growing in the great outdoors. We live in a world where state of the art technology is at our fingertips at all times. This has brought our world somewhat closer, but it has also created a disconnectedness with the world outside. While technology is an important part of our daily lives, NOSD students, staff, and community members are investing back into the importance of the great outdoors.



NOSD School Forest



Beyond the classroom walls lies a world of opportunity where children can explore, discover, and flourish in ways that traditional education alone cannot offer. This transformation is happening at NOSD through the use of a variety of outdoor green spaces including the NOSD Forest, NOSD Backyard, and Pollinator Prairie.

NOSD is fortunate to have Riveredge Scientist in Residence (SIR), Rachel Race on campus. Her role as SIR is an environmental educator who collaborates with teachers, staff, and students as a key part of the team. Rachel takes a hands-on approach to reducing barriers to outdoor learning as a teaching space as well as engaging with the ecosystems around them.

There is a wide range of goals that NOSD is trying to achieve with the increase of outdoor learning.

THESE GOALS INCLUDE:

1. Utilize and enhance our School Forest and outdoor spaces for learning.
2. Engage and support teachers in multidisciplinary outdoor learning activities. Materials are available for all grade levels at NOSD so teachers and students can grab and go outdoors with the tools they need with limited planning.
3. Build and increase support and involvement of the community in utilizing our outdoor learning spaces.

This summer our Riveredge Scientist in Residence coordinated an event with various community organizations and students to help plant the 10-acre prairie. Some prairie seeds were started by students in Mr. Schanen's Ecology class in the spring of 2023. This project was entirely funded by grant awards and community donations.



Top: 5th graders enjoying a walk in nature while learning more about making observations. Bottom: OHS Science Teacher, Mr. Schanen, working with students in the heart of the school forest during Ecology Class.



Students will not only engage in the world around them, they will begin to make observations and begin to identify our native species and nonnative species to create a sense of place within our community and ecosystem.

Outdoor learning is not just about the physical space; it's about nurturing the whole child. The transformative power of outdoor learning lies in its ability to foster a deeper connection with nature, improve physical well-being, enhance problem-solving and critical thinking skills, reduce stress, encourage creativity, and build social skills. In a world where the pressures of formal education can sometimes stifle natural curiosity, outdoor learning offers a refreshing and holistic approach to education. It transforms children into resilient, empathetic, and well-rounded individuals, preparing them to face the challenges of the future with confidence and enthusiasm. We are excited to see this transformation happen with our Ozaukee Warriors.



Scan QR code for MORE!





EMPOWERING TOMORROW'S WORKFORCE:

The Significance of Career-Ready Classes at OHS

There is no denying the fact that in today's economic environment the decline in workforce weighs heavily in many industries. Due to this, Ozaukee High School is actively taking steps to make a positive impact to empower tomorrow's workforce.

High school education serves as the foundation for students' future careers and goals. While rigorous coursework is without a doubt essential, it is equally important to prepare students for the practical demands of the workforce. Offering career-ready opportunities in high school is an essential aspect of education that can empower students with the skills, experiences, and confidence they need to succeed in a chosen career. Over the past several years our Tech Ed department has installed a CNC Mill, CNC Lathe, Robotic Arm and a two post hoist. These machines aide in preparing our students to utilize similar machinery in the workforce. In the 2023-24 school year alone, OHS is taking strides to prepare students for the workforce by introducing two new classes: Learning to Lead and Auto Services 1.

Learning to Lead is a required class for all OHS Sophomores. In this class, students engage in various activities that closely replicate what the workforce will be like after leaving Ozaukee High School. For example, in September a panel of industry leaders presented to the class in the NOSD Fine Arts Center. Panel members had a conversation about various employability skills students will need to be successful in the workforce and in general to be a successful citizen. The panel not only helped the students gain important insight into specific industries, it allowed students to network with potential employers and make meaningful connections in a safe setting.



Over the past several years there have been various advancements in our Tech Ed department to align with career readiness; this year is no different. It is evident when you walk into the Tech Ed classrooms that students are engaged in meaningful work that is preparing them for workplace certifications, apprenticeships, and more. Mr. Kornely is trailblazing with the addition of the Auto Services 1 class and Auto Club during resource time. Through these offerings, students get the industry experience of conducting oil changes, tire rotations, basic diagnostics, and PDI's (Pre Delivery Inspection) within their school day. This not only prepares students for a potential career in automobiles, but to simply be a responsible car owner.



Industry Leaders Forum participants talking about their careers and essential employability skills to the class of 2026 in Learning to Lead.

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES AND CLASSROOMS:

The Power of School Partnerships

In the continuously changing world of education, one thing has remained consistent; the importance of making connections between NOSD and the greater community. These collaborations are not simply a gesture, but a cornerstone of modern education facilitating a holistic approach to developing the next generation of Ozaukee Warriors. We value these community partnerships and know they are playing an instrumental part in shaping our students now and into the future.

The Northern Ozaukee School District is fortunate to reside in a highly invested community where partnerships infuse classrooms with vital opportunities and experiences that create an environment that goes beyond traditional classroom style learning.

NOSD has a vast number of current and former partnerships that allow us to learn beyond our campus walls. These partnerships allow our educators to broaden our students horizons and offer real-life work experiences. In addition, partnerships allow us to creatively make purchases that otherwise would not be possible with current budgetary constraints. For example, over the last several years our Tech Ed department has been the recipient of various grants and donations and with that have been able to make purchases to update essential equipment to prepare our students.






Although it would be challenging to highlight all of our partnerships and local businesses, one that instrumentally changed the face of NOSD is the Bruce Krier Foundation. NOSD has successfully written and received grants worth over \$970,000. These grants have aided in advancements in technology, first class learning environments, and expanding our outdoor education program and green spaces on campus. Without this partnership many of these advancements would not have been possible.

We want to extend our sincere gratitude to our local businesses, community members, organizations, parents, teachers, and all those who tirelessly work to create and sustain community partnerships with NOSD. Your efforts not only enhance the quality of education but also shape the future of the greater Ozaukee community. Your support and dedication are invaluable, and we recognize the profound impact you have on the lives of our students. Together, we are growing a better prepared and brighter future for all.

District Financial Snapshot:

As another budgeting cycle has recently wrapped up for the District, planning for the next year has already begun. What may seem like a never ending cycle in the District's Business Office, a team of staff members are constantly working on managing the District's finances and processing transactions.

The school board approved the annual budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year in October. Here are a few key takeaways from the budget:

-  **A Balanced Budget was approved**
-  **Student Enrollment Count of 694 was the highest since 2018**
-  **Total School Tax Levy of \$7.55 million decreased from the previous year**
-  **District is operating on the same level of state-imposed revenues (revenue limit) as the 2008-09 school year**
-  **School reserves are currently at the District's target level to avoid short-term borrowing**

Northern Ozaukee School District is proud of what we have been able to accomplish with the available resources within our District. Our District's focus on long-term financial planning and fiscal responsibility has allowed us to improve our financial position. While right-sizing various areas throughout the District, we have been able to retain great staff to support our student's needs. Our great staff, many student opportunities, and our updated facilities have drawn families who view our District as a strong educational option in our community.



Joshua McDaniel, CPA
Director of
Business Services

From the Principals



Elementary School - LYNN KUCHARSKI



Ozaukee Elementary School provides the building blocks in education to encompass the whole child as a learner. We have over 330 students from early childhood thru fifth grade. This year, we have adopted new high-quality, standards-aligned reading and writing instructional curriculum materials. Our elementary students have consistently demonstrated that they “exceed expectations” on the standardized state assessments. We are very proud of the hard work of our students and teachers and the support of our families.



Middle School - CHARLIE SCHWARTZ



Ozaukee Middle School is a great school that believes in developing our students’ knowledge, character, and understanding of civic responsibilities. We offer a comprehensive array of classes, clubs, sports, and activities for our students. One of many unique opportunities we provide our students is seventh grade camp.

Seventh grade camp is an opportunity that allows our students the opportunity to explore the science occurring in nature. We partner with Ozaukee High School students who work collaboratively with the Ozaukee Middle School Science teacher to provide hands-on nature based science opportunities. Our students are responsible for hypothesizing, analyzing, and reflecting in nature during this three day field trip at H.H. Peters Youth Camp located within Hawthorne Hills Park.

High School - MICHAEL LEACH



Ozaukee High School provides outstanding learning opportunities in a variety of ways. Our Freshmen are enrolled in high school readiness through our Learning to Succeed course. Our Sophomore students learn about project work and leadership development through our Learning to Lead course. In addition to our college and career focus, we are implementing our first automotive class (Auto Service 1) in the second semester. High School students are learning about automation through robotics this year. All students have opportunities to engage in extra-curriculars through our Wizard of Oz Musical, Band and Choir performances and Warrior athletics.



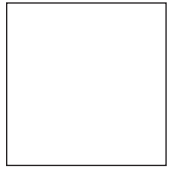
WARRIOR PRIDE



Our Cross Country program has been on an amazing run!

Since 2018:

- 47** State Qualifiers Including 6 Teams
- 1** State Runner-Up Team Finish (2020 Girls)
- 5** Sectional Champion Teams (3 Girls, 2 Boys)
- 1** Sectional Runner-Up Team (Boys)
- 4** Conference Team Titles
- 4** All-Academic State Teams (3.4 or higher team GPA)



MISSION (our core purpose)

Educate young men and women to develop strong character and prepare them for the future

VISION (our future)

To pursue excellence at all levels of our district



UPCOMING DATES

Mark your calendar with these important upcoming dates.

- Dec 5:** 4K & 5K Winter Concert
- Dec 7:** 1st & 2nd Grade Winter Concert
- Dec 14:** OMS/OHS Winter Band Concert
- Dec 18:** OMS/OHS Winter Choir Concert
- Feb 2:** Preschool Screening
- Mar 21:** Fine Arts Night
- Apr. 13:** NOSSF Fundraiser at Buechler Farms- Johnny Cash Tribute
- Apr. 18:** 3rd-5th Grade Spring Concert
- May 7:** OMS/OHS Spring Band Concert
- May 14:** OMS/OHS Spring Choir Concert
- May 17:** Senior Parade
- May 19:** High School Graduation
- May 30:** 8th Grade Promotion & Dance
- May 31:** Last Day of School

2023-2024 NOSD School Board



From Left to Right Front Row:

Dan Large (Vice President), Suzanne Miller (Secretary), Jennifer Clark (Treasurer), Stephen Burmesch (Member)

From Left to Right Back Row:

Kevin Klas (Member), Jeff Decker (Member), Hal Steffen (Member), Rick Hamm (Member), Brent Neis (President)

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