



February 8, 2026

Onaway Calendar

- **Coffee & Conversation with Principal Bechtel** | Monday, February 9, 9:00-10:00am
- **Kindness Spirit Week** | Monday, February 9 thru Thursday, February 12
- **PTO Meeting & Speaker Series** | Wednesday, February 11, 6:00pm
- **Conference Day - No School for Students** | Friday, February 13
- **Presidents Day - No School** | Monday, February 16
- **Onaway Skate at Thornton Park** | Saturday, February 21, 2:30-4:30pm
- **Spirit Day** | Friday, February 27

Link to [Online District Calendar](#)

Message from Principal Bechtel

Dear Onaway Families,

Please click the link below to view [Principal Bechtel's Family Newsletter](#) for the week of February 8th. It was a wonderful FULL week of learning! Check out the pictures of students getting back into action.

With gratitude,
Principal Bechtel

School News

Important to Get to School on Time

Arriving on time and regular attendance at school are crucial to student success. Students rely on a calm, dependable beginning to their day and need the consistency of a prompt arrival and regular attendance at school. Students should arrive at school at 8:05am.

If your child will be late to school or absent for any reason, please remember to call or email the Onaway office and the teacher. You can find the office staff emails and phone numbers in the [Onaway Nuts and Bolts](#).

Coffee and Conversation with Mrs. Bechtel

We hope you will join us for the next Coffee and Conversations with Principal Bechtel on Monday, February 9th from 9:00-10:10:00am in the MPR! This is our series of monthly chats designed to foster a stronger school community and provide valuable information to parents.

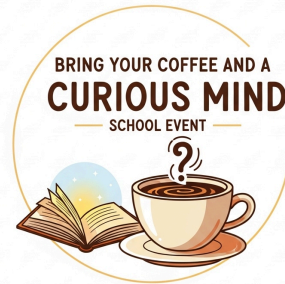
February Topic: "Celebrating Differences and Inclusion in a K-5 Setting"

Speakers: Principal, Counselor, Student Care Specialist & IB Coordinator

Focus: A deep dive into Shaker Heights' commitment to diversity and how parents can support a culture of inclusion at home.

Discussion Points:

- How the school celebrates different cultures and backgrounds through curriculum and events.
- Talking to children about race, ethnicity, and diversity in age-appropriate ways.
- The importance of modeling inclusive language and behavior.
- How to respond to microaggressions or other incidents.



Kindness Games Challenge

We are spreading kindness at Onaway! Students and Staff kicked off the Kindness Games by taking a pledge to be kind by casting their "kindness ballot" and watching the Kindland Kickoff video at school. Random Acts of Kindness will be encouraged at school and at home. See the [Kindness Games Parent Letter](#) for complete details.



Kindness Spirit Week

We are focusing on Kindness this month! Let's have some fun and celebrate being kind this month with a Kindness Spirit Week!!

Monday - Caring Day - wear a shirt with a positive, kind, caring message

Tuesday - Let's Work Out Our Differences Day - wear your workout/sweats gear

Wednesday - Onaway Spirit Day - wear your red, Onaway or Shaker gear

Thursday - Glow Day (including the recess Glow Party!) - wear sparkles, shiny things, glowy or neon

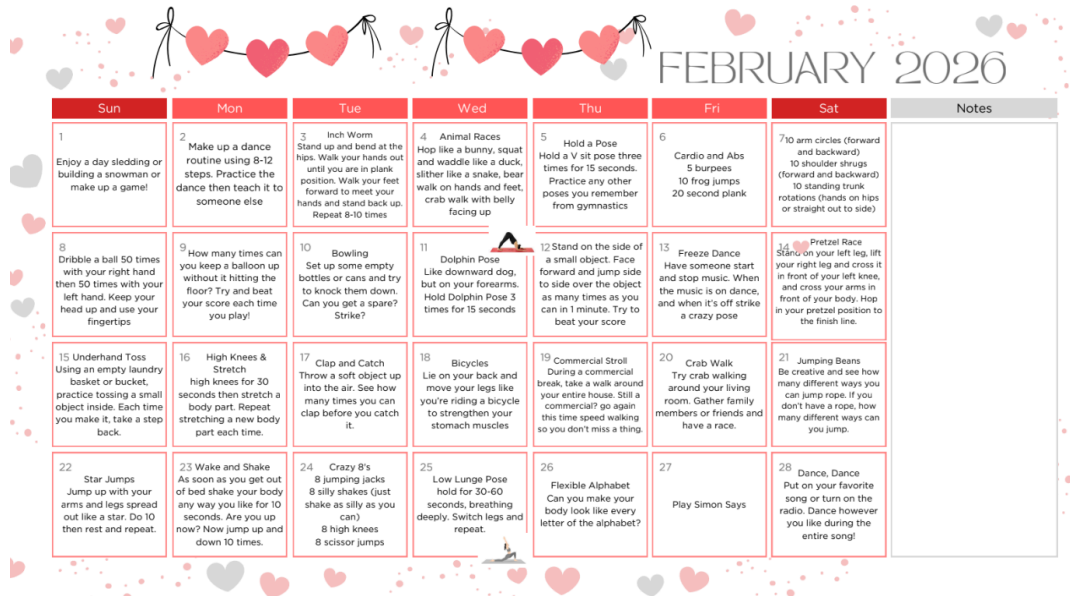
Friday - Parent/Teacher Conference



February Physical Activity from PE

February is heart health month so it's a good reminder to get moving! See below for our February Physical Activity Challenge!

The goal of physical education is to help every student grow stronger, move smarter, and develop lifelong healthy habits. To assist in this mission, we'd love for your house to take part in our monthly activity challenges. They are meant to be fun and a way to get the family involved in a little physical activity each day. Thank you for supporting the Onaway Physical Education program!



Sweetheart Dance

All PreK-5th Grade students are invited to the annual Sweetheart Dance this Friday, February 13, 2026 from 6:00-8:00pm. It will be held at the Shaker Middle School. See the [Sweetheart Dance](#) flyer for complete details and links for payment below.

All attendees MUST be pre-registered. NO walk-ins. Tickets are \$20.00 for 1 adult and 1 child. (\$10.00 for each additional child or adult)

Please make checks payable to Shaker Heights City School District and return by Tuesday, February 10, 2026 to your school office or payment may also be made via [PaySchools Central](#) (tinyurl.com/PaySchoolsShaker)

Any questions, please call Ms. Billie at 216-295-4366 or 216-295-4050

A Message from our Onaway IB Coordinator

Shaker is an International Baccalaureate district, our Onaway IB Coordinator helps to keep our families informed. Please see this week's [IB Newsletter](#) for the latest updates.

If you have any questions about IB, please reach out to your child's teacher or our IB Coordinator, Denise Brown (brown_d@shaker.org).

PTO News

PTO Speaker Series Event - Wednesday, February 11th

Executive Function 101: Tools for Home & School
Wednesday, February 11th 6-7:30pm with light dinner included

The Onaway PTO invites and encourages all parents to attend this event in the Onaway Multi-Purpose Room at 6:00 pm this Wednesday, 2/11. You'll be able to learn about Executive Function and walk away with practical ideas to better understand your student's executive function skills AND reduce daily struggles around routines, homework, and emotional overwhelm.

Child Care Provided (potty-trained, 4+) and light dinner pizza/salad/beverages provided at 6pm. Please RSVP using the QR code below.

**Please RSVP via
QR Code**



Onaway Skates

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21 from 2:30-4:30 pm (NOTE date/time change)
Thornton Park Ice Arena

All Onaway families are invited to this afternoon of FREE skating with our school community. All abilities are welcome and skate rental is included.

Questions? Contact Erin Frank at erinkfrank09@gmail.com

2nd Grade Families - Time for Snack Cart

2nd Grade Families it's time to sign-up for the February 25th Snack Cart! The next Onaway snack cart date is right around the corner and it is the second grade's turn to fill it! [Sign up now for the Snack Cart!](#)

As a parent or caregiver, there are two ways to be involved with the snack cart:

1. You can buy or bake something for the cart*
2. You can volunteer to push the cart around the school from 11:30am - 2pm on Wednesday 2/25**

*All items must be dropped off with the front office no later than 9am on Wednesday 2/25.

*In order to volunteer in the school, you must be registered, fingerprinted, and have a background check
(this process needs to be redone every three years)

Feel free to reach out to tory.k.mateo@gmail.com with any questions and thank you for helping to shower our teachers and staff with some love!