

Administrator's Message

October is here, the leaves have changed color and are starting to fall. We are off to another great start this year. September has been a true return to normal. It finally feels like we have the pandemic behind us, can really get back at learning, and can even plan ahead.

In September, we had a lot of exciting events: the Terry Fox Run, National Truth and Reconciliation Week/Orange Shirt day, Get The Scoop, and our student council put on an excellent pancake breakfast. Thanks to everyone who participated and contributed to putting on these events. October will be another month packed full of events. Please see the October's Important Dates section for more details.

Hopefully we can all take the time to take a step back, reflect, and be thankful for what we have. Thanksgiving wishes to you and your family and a Happy Halloween.

Mr. Jespersen, Assistant Principal

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New Cell Phone Policy at OJSH

This month, school administration has been dealing with significant issues related to online bullying in our school. Through anonymous instagram pages, as an example, students are posting malicious and cruel commentary and pictures of students in the school. **Most of this is happening during class time.** Despite our policy of no visible personal electronic devices - cell phones specifically, students are still taking phones into class, taking pictures of students, and posting online with intent to hurt.

Through social media, students are exposed to hurtful commentary and have to face the student population who sees or participates in these actions every day in their classes. Imagine how awful it would be for a student to come to school each day and never know who might be snapping a photo of them, let alone what they will say about it or do with it.

NGPS has a policy (AP 175) about Welcoming, Respectful, Caring, and Safe schools and our staff aims to ensure our students feel safe by doing what we can. Through our research, it appears some students have accessed instagram using school assigned chromebooks and we have requested our technical staff to block this account as we have with Tiktok and Snapchat. However more students appear to use personal devices during class time. As such, and as another measure to help keep your children safe, we are implementing a new policy regarding cell phones during instructional time effective Tuesday, October 11. The policy (see below) will be shared with students Tuesday October 4 and teachers will use this week to help them develop a new understanding of expectations. As of Tuesday following Thanksgiving, the new policy will be in effect.

Updated Policy - October 3, 2022

Effective October 11, 2022

PED's - especially cell phones, are not to be present or in use during instructional time. *Instructional time refers to the period of time a student is assigned to a class* and includes time in these periods where a student leaves the assigned class to attend to the washroom, answer an office call, etc.

Students entering class with a cell phone on their person (in hand, noted peeking out of pocket, binder, etc.) - will be directed to put it in their locker or leave with the teacher (if they do not have locker) for the remainder of the instructional time. The teacher will create a log entry that they addressed this with a student.

Despite the above, should a cell phone be visible or in use during instructional time the following procedure applies:

First and Second instance of cell phone visible or in use during instructional time:

The student will be required to give the phone to the teacher*. The teacher will turn it in to the office administration for the day. The teacher will also create a log entry.

Administration will notify parents by phone or email that their child's phone is in the office for the day. Parent may contact school if they need to get a message to their child.

Third Instance:

Same as above, but parents and student will be required to meet with school administration to develop a plan to prevent further infractions.

Subsequent Infractions:

As per Section 31(b, f, g, h) (student responsibilities) and Section 32 (b) (parent responsibilities) of the Alberta Education Act, students are required to comply with the rules of the school. Students who do not, may be subject to full day(s) of in or out of

school suspension. Parent will also be notified of the suspension. A new plan will be developed which may include no technology at school.

**Students who do not relinquish their phone to the teacher will be sent to the office with it. Students are required to follow school rules as per Section 31 of the Alberta Education Act. If a student will not hand in their phone when requested by teacher or administration, their parent will be contacted to pick the student and the phone up. A plan for proper PED use and following school rules will be developed with the student and parent.*

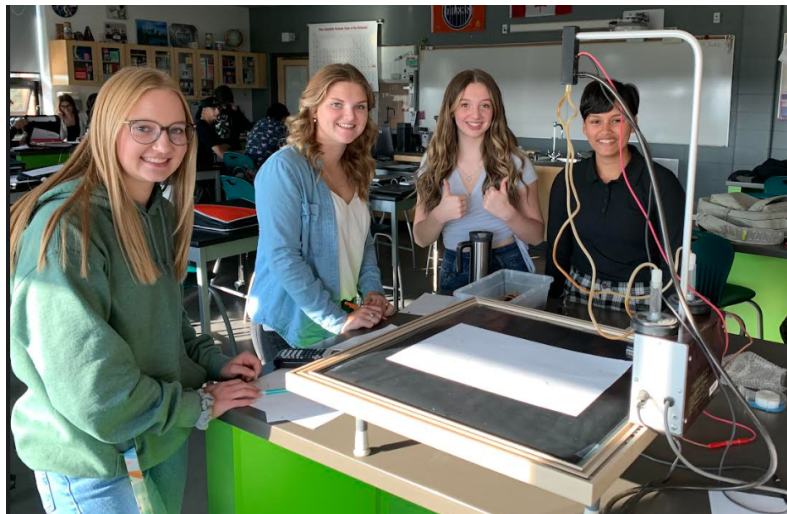
Note:

Students are expected to use school technology for educational purposes and are bound to the NGPS Administrative Procedure 640 “Responsible Use of Technology”. Students who utilize school technology (such as chromebooks) or NGPS networks for inappropriate purposes such as bullying will be subject to having school chromebooks/technology revoked for part or the entirety of the school year. AP 640 also clearly indicates students should be obtaining permission from others before posting about them.

Physics 30 Learning Through Air Hockey!

By Mr. Missfeldt

Physics 30 students did a two dimensional conservation of momentum lab using an air table. They had to analyze the impact by looking at the timed spark trail left by the pucks before and after the point of collision and then calculate corresponding momentums and discuss their results. All their calculations were completed using components.



And The Winner is...

Last month OJSH held a draw for 4 West Edmonton Mall World Waterpark Passes. To be eligible, families had to have paid their school fees and have SchoolCash accounts at a zero balance. Parents were invited to pay in person during our Get The Scoop Event, online through SchoolCash, or at other times during the month.

The winner was drawn after the event. ***Mieka in grade 9 and her family are the lucky winners!!*** Congratulations! We sure hope you have a blast at the World Waterpark!



Golf Season

by Paige Deacon on September 26

Junior and senior golf has wrapped up for the season with great success!

The Senior High Golf Team placed 3rd in Zones, great job!

Congratulations to the Junior High Golf Team who won the GCAA banner, finishing first place in the tournament at the end of September.



The Terry Fox Run 2022

by Paige Deacon on September 26

The Terry Fox Run for the 2022 School Year was a great success! There was a lot of awareness made, participation in the 5km, money donated to cancer research, and support for this cause. Thank you to all of those who participated and pushed themselves both physically and mentally. Students and staff at OJSH made a difference this year, helping in the fight against cancer, and continuing Terry's vision. Great job everyone!





Fun at the Run

By Ms K Schmidt-Peterson on September 29, 2022



This group of students and staff participated in the OJSH Terry Fox Run on September 21. You can tell from the looks on their faces that there were varying levels of excitement over having to run! Everyone had a great time,

though, and enjoyed the celebratory atmosphere and treats at the end. Mrs G said it was her “best day” to date working at OJSH. Our appreciation goes out to Miss Deacon for organizing the event and to all of the many people who helped her make it a reality.

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National Truth and Reconciliation Week

By Ms. G Newton

September 26-29 was National Truth and Reconciliation Week. On the 29th, we were honoured to have Elder Gordon Burnstick join us in the



gymnasium to share the story of his experience in Residential Schools and the work that he is doing today for Residential School

survivors. Students and staff wrote reflections on orange shirts and stuck them on the ‘reconciliation’ tree in our foyer. Reconciliation

begins with education, and it was great to see our staff and students learn and reflect together. Special thank you to Ms. Noyes, Mr. Jespersen, Mr. Law, and Mrs. Tremblay for the work they put into the NDTR activities!



Meet our new Student Council

by Mrs. E. Radvanszky

OJSH is proud to present our new Student Council team led by President Shayla Toma, and Vice President Abigail Dallan.



This group of young leaders are eager to introduce new and exciting activities to our student community. Shayla and Abigail are scheduled to attend the virtual conference held by the Canadian Student Leadership Association from October 6th to 8th. During this conference they will be hearing from encouraging speakers, and participate in workshops with other students across the nation. They will later share their experiences and new found knowledge with the rest of the Student Council during their team building retreat on Wednesday, October 12th.

This week the council wanted to make connections with students at OJSH. On Monday, September 26th, members arrived early to begin cooking over 300 pancakes for students and staff. Some members served, while others spent time chatting with students in the main foyer. It was a successful event, and just the beginning of one of the many plans the students council has for our school.



Mustangs Competitive Cheer

Teams



By Mrs. H. Elliott

We are back to cheer! The Junior Mustangs Cheer Team is now practicing Tuesdays as they prepare for their first competitive season. We have 11 students in Grades 6 to 8 from OJSH, OES, and Grasmere. Stay tuned for some practice photos in the next newsletter!

The Senior Mustangs Cheer Team will have their first practice this Thursday so it's not too late to join. No experience in cheer, dance or gymnastics is needed and there are no prerequisite skills. You just need to be in Grade 9 to 12 and be willing to try something new.

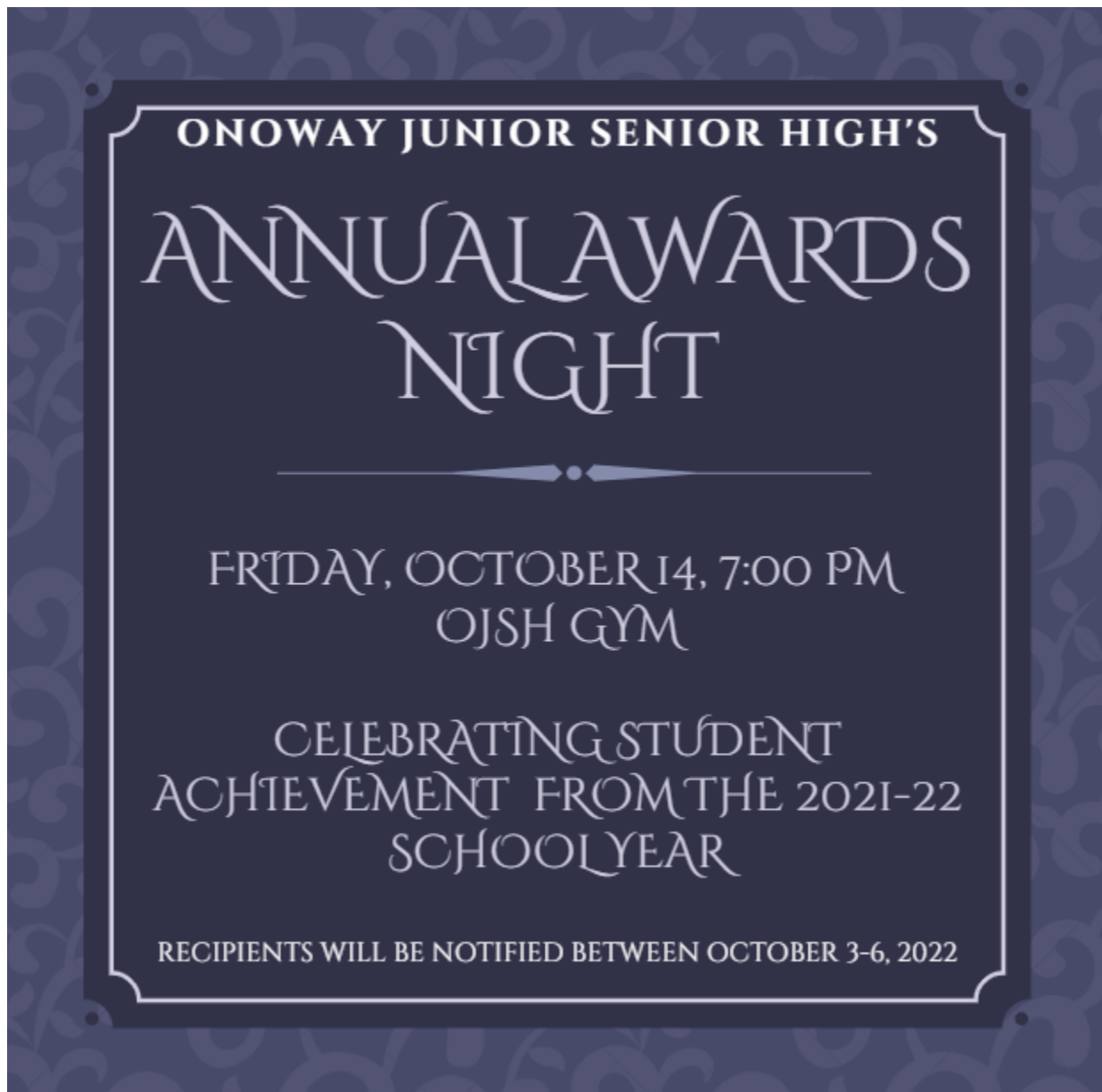
We will say, this is NOT your grandmother's cheerleading. Cheerleading has been named a provisional sport at the 2024 Olympics and Canadians are leading the way - our country consistently places in the top 5 at the World Championships held each year in Orlando.

So, if you've ever thought cheer might be fun, despite the stereotypes and what you see in movies, stop by Mrs. Elliott's or Ms. Newton's room to get some information.

BOLD EAGLE

Congratulations to Elora Mustus who completed her training in the Bold Eagle program this summer. The Bold Eagle program is a **Canadian Army training program that is open to Indigenous peoples living in Western Canada or Northwestern Ontario**. Participants train in Wainwright, Alberta, at the 3rd Canadian Division Training Centre from early July to late August each year. The program combines Indigenous culture and teachings with military training that helps youth develop valuable skills such as self-confidence, self-discipline, teamwork and leadership skills.





Counselling Corner

The counselling staff of the Wrap Around would like to extend an enthusiastic welcome to all of our students and their families as we begin another exciting and fun year of growth at Onoway Junior Senior High. It's been a great start to our school year that has been full of activities and action already. Here in the Wrap Around, the start of a new year is always a busy time and this year is proving to be no different.

Our Grade 12 students began their Grade 12 Interviews with the staff of the Wrap Around in the last week. There are two main purposes of the interviews: the counselors will verify the courses and credits contained in the students' Alberta Education transcript to ensure they are on track to graduate in June with their classmates and they will also discuss the students' plans for their future after graduating which may include working, upgrading their high school courses and/or marks and continuing on with their education at a post-secondary institution. Among the topics that are touched on during the interview are applying to post-secondary, Open Houses offered by post-secondary institutions in the Edmonton area and financing further study by way of student loans, scholarships, bursaries, etc. The interviews are also simply the start of the year-long process of preparing our graduating students for their life after high school. They are encouraged to contact Wrap Around staff at any time throughout the year with any questions or concerns they may have regarding their graduation status or plans for after Grade 12.

Speaking of **Open Houses**, there are a number of them upcoming for the post-secondary institutions in the Edmonton area in the weeks ahead. Some of these are listed below:

Sat. Oct. 15 - University of Alberta (9 - 3 pm), King's University (10 - 2 pm)

Sat. Oct. 22 - Concordia University (10 - 2 pm), Norquest College (10 - 2 pm),

Red Deer Polytechnic (9 am - noon), Lakeland College (and Oct. 21)

Sat. Oct. 29 - NAIT (9 - 4 pm)

Sat. Nov. 5 - MacEwan University (10 - 3 pm)

On Friday, November 25, from 9:30 to 11 am, our Gr. 9 -12 students will have the opportunity to attend the ELAA Event that will be stopping by our school. ELAA, the Educational Liaison Association of Alberta is comprised of Alberta post-secondary institutions including colleges, universities, and technical institutes; the RCMP, and Canadian Forces. They visit high schools throughout Alberta to provide students and their families with information and guidance about planning for their future and attending their institutions. It is an informative and always well attended event when held here at OJSH.

This is the first year that it is being presented during school hours because in past years, it has always been presented in the evening. We do encourage parents to plan to attend if they are able.

In closing, we would like to remind and encourage parents and all of our students that if they need anything or have any questions or concerns, please call or visit the Wrap Around at your soonest convenience. It is our job to assist and guide students with any questions or concerns that they may have and the Wrap Around area is staffed every block of the day as well as lunch hour and before and after classes. Please make use of this resource that is available to you.

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October's Important Dates

Tuesday, October 4	Onoway Music Parents Association (OMPA) Meeting @ OJSH Band Room, 4:30pm
Wednesday, October 5	National Coffee with a Cop Day Student Council Activity
Friday, October 7	Professional development day - no students attend
Monday, October 10	Happy Thanksgiving! 
Friday, October 14	Awards Night
Thursday, October 20	School Council @ OJSH 6:30pm or email onowayhighparents@gmail.com for Google meet link
Wednesday, October 26	Pumpkin Carving Contest Student Council Activity
Mon. Oct. 24 - Fri. Oct. 28	Candy Apple Grams sold for Student Council Fundraiser Hallowe'en Haunted House open all week (admission is food bank donations)
Monday, October 31	Hallowe'en (costume contest parade at

EVERY CHILD MATTERS

The Importance of Being an Indigenous Ally

Northern Gateway School Division resides on Treaty 6 and 8 Territory, the traditional meeting ground, gathering place, and traveling route to the Nakota Sioux, Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Dene and Metis. We acknowledge the many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for generations. NGPS recognizes the need to support all school staff on the recommendations put forward by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. By better understanding the history, culture, context and realities of Indigenous learners, schools can move towards providing a more inclusive and supportive learning environment. Each school has a staff member designated as a First Nation, Metis and Inuit Advocate. They work alongside the FNMI lead from Division Office establishes relationships with Indigenous leaders. Advocates provide professional development and resources to build knowledge and confidence in all school staff.

WHAT IS AN INDIGENOUS ALLY?

An Ally recognizes that every person has a basic right to human dignity, respect and equal access to resources. An Ally acknowledges that building relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people is work of the heart. It requires a certain humbling to allow our hearts to accept new and often changing information.

An ally speaks up, even when they are scared or uncomfortable. They plant seeds of truth in conversations with others. They believe and validate the stories they hear.

Dr. Jennifer A. Tupper, Faculty of Education University of Alberta, tells us that we can become Allies by:

- Committing to deepening our knowledge.
- Listening, self-reflection and education Learning about Treaties and The treaty relationship
- Understanding learning is ongoing and a journey

- Knowing what Treaty Territory we are in and who the Indigenous people of the Territory are
- Listening and learning from Indigenous people: in-person, podcasts, articles, blogs, films, etc.

SUPPORT

National Residential School Crisis Line: Call 1-866-925-4419

Hope for Wellness Helpline: Call 1-855-242-3310 Chat online:
www.hopeforwellness.ca

RESOURCES:

<https://www.orangeshirtday.org/orange-shirt-society.html>

<https://nctr.ca/education/trw/>

<https://calgaryfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/Ally-Toolkit-web.pdf>

<https://indigenoustourismalberta.ca/travel-stories/six-ways-non-indigenous-people-can-be-an-ally-to-indigenous-peoples/>

This article was written by Tammy Charko BA, BSW, RSW. Tammy is Northern Gateway Public School's Student Support Facilitator. She is a support for schools, students, parents and caregivers to promote wellness and success in school. Tammy has been a Registered Social Worker for more than 23 years and is a mother to 4 children; 2 in high school and 2 in university.

Alberta Transportation

October Stakeholder Message



Dear Traffic Safety Stakeholder:

Our traffic safety focus for the month of October is **Pedestrian Safety**.

Pedestrian collisions are more common during the fall season than other times of the year, as the hours of daylight decrease and pedestrian visibility is reduced. Collisions involving pedestrians are most likely to happen during the afternoon rush hour (between 3:00 and 7:00 pm), when people are rushing to get home. Drivers and pedestrians should always look out for each other.

Pedestrian safety facts:

Between 2015 and 2019:

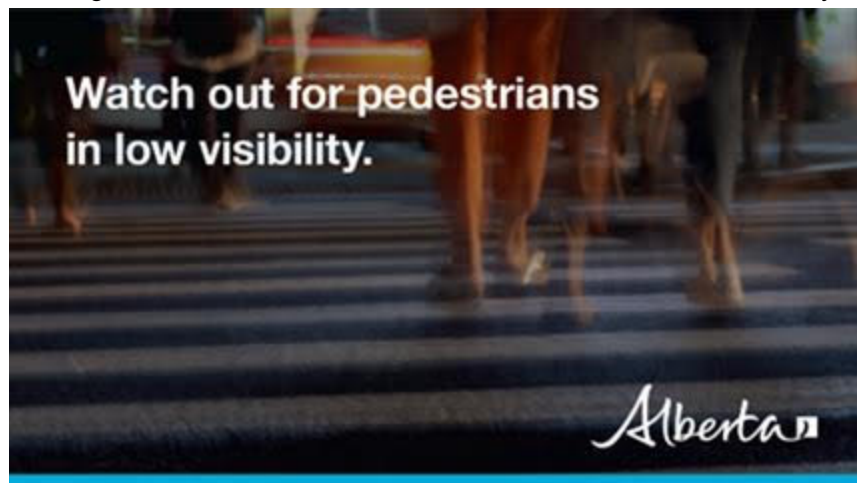
- An average of 37 pedestrians were killed and 1,073 were injured each year.
- The highest number of pedestrian casualty collisions were in October and November.
- The vast majority (96.2 per cent) of pedestrian casualty collisions occurred in urban areas.
- Nearly half (49.0 per cent) of drivers involved in pedestrian casualty collisions failed to yield the right of way to the pedestrian.

Tips for drivers:

- As you approach crosswalks or prepare to turn, watch for pedestrians and give them the right-of-way. Failing to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk carries a fine of \$810 and four demerit points.
- Slow down on residential streets and in areas with high pedestrian traffic.
- Watch for vehicles in the next lane who may be stopped or slowing down, as they may be yielding to a pedestrian in a crosswalk.

Tips for pedestrians:

- Even when you have the right-of-way when crossing a street, be cautious and watch for drivers who may not see you.
- When crossing streets, use crosswalks and whenever possible, signaled crosswalks. Avoid jaywalking.
- At night or in low-light conditions, take extra caution to make sure drivers see you.





Did you Know??

OJSH has a Facebook Page, an Instagram Page, a Twitter Feed, and a website? Plus we post a daily bulletin for students and parents every morning!

Check us out at

Facebook - Onoway Jr/Sr High School

Instagram - onowayjrsrhighschool

Twitter - @ngpsohs www.onowayhigh.ca