



“Notes from the Nest” is a weekly, informational email highlighting upcoming events.

February 10, 2017

ONW Blood Drive

Olathe Northwest’s Student Council is hosting their annual Blood Drive on Tuesday, February 14th from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in the east gym at Olathe Northwest. We currently hold the Kansas state record for most blood donated at a high school thanks to the generous donors in our community. There is a critical blood shortage in the Kansas City area and every donation can save up to two lives. To sign up to donate, go to www.esavealifenow.org and enter sponsor code Ravens. If you are 16 and would like to donate, you will need a signed [permission slip](#). To make sure you are an eligible donor please check this link [please refer to this link](#). If you are donating, make sure to drink plenty of water the day of the blood drive and make sure to eat a good breakfast.)

Raven Week

This year’s Raven Week will be February 13th through February 17th. Monday’s Spirit Day is Pajama Day, Tuesday’s is Red Day (Blood Drive and Valentine’s Day!), Wednesday’s is Flower Power, Thursday’s is Clone Day, and Friday’s Spirit Day is Country vs. Country Club day.

Dance

This year’s winter semi-formal will be on the Saturday, February 18th, following Raven Week. The theme is Secret Garden. Tickets will be sold at all lunches beginning Monday, February 13 the cost is \$15 for one or \$25 for two. Tickets can also be bought at the door the night of the dance. The dance will be from 7pm to 10pm.

Spring Sports

Spring Sports begin on Monday, February 27, 2017. The following Sports are offered in the Spring:

- Baseball
- Softball
- Boys/Girls Track
- Girls Soccer
- Boys Golf

Girls Swim/Dive
Boys Tennis

Before any student can try out they will need to submit a completed and signed physical (PPE Form) and a concussion form. These can be picked up in the front office or downloaded from our website at www.onwravens.net.

Robotics

FIRST Team 1710 is trying to raise \$1500 to revive “Broom Bot,” the robot that shoots t-shirts to the crowd and sweeps the floor during basketball games! Anyone wishing to donate money to this great cause can go to the Olathe Public Schools Foundation Fund-A-Need page and click on Grant [#4839 “Sweeping the Floor to Inspire.”](#) All donations are welcome and appreciated! Thank you for your support!

Free College Fair For High School Students and Their Parents:

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, **April 6, 2017**

Blue Valley West High School

16200 Antioch Road, Stilwell, KS 66085

Register at: <http://www.gpacac.net/college-fairs>

College Now Enrollment

Enrollment is now open for JCCC College Now spring courses. The deadline to enroll and pay is **February 10**. All information can be found at www.jccc.edu/collegenow

Only the following courses require spring enrollment:

AP US History, AP Literature, Spanish IV, French IV, AP European History, AP Government, Cartooning and Animation, Fundamentals of Programming, JAVA, Convergence Journalism

Questions? Email Pat Butler (pbutleronw@olatheschools.org)

AP Registration

AP Exam registration is now open! Students enrolled in an AP course are encouraged to take the AP exam in May. The cost for each test is \$95. The link for registration is <https://user.totalregistration.net/AP/172225> .

Registration and payment must be completed by **March 6th at 11:59PM**. No late registration or payments will be accepted. For more information, please contact your student’s teacher, Mrs. Dietz rdietzonw@olatheschools.org or view the flyer at <http://www.onwravens.net/blog/ap-registration/>.

Summer e-Academy

Information about 2017 Summer eAcademy will be available from your High School Counselor starting at Conference time. For more information please visit their website.

<http://departments.olatheschools.com/eacademy/files/2013/01/2017-Summer-for-Web.pdf>

Driver's Education

The Olathe Public Schools offer state-approved driver's education courses that meet either in an after-school or summer school format. The program emphasizes defensive driving and the social responsibility of driving. Successful completion of this course, plus additional driving experience, will enable students to obtain a Kansas driver's license if they are 16 years old, or a restricted license if they are 15 years old, once all requirements are met. For more information please visit their website.

<https://www.olatheschools.com/schools2/programs/high-school/drivers-education>

College Opportunity Night

Please join us **Thursday, February 23, 2017** from **6:00-8:00 p.m.** Location : Olathe North High School (600 E Prairie St, Olathe, KS 66061) 6:00-6:30 p.m.– Introduction, meal, and speaker We will begin the evening with a light meal (supply limited) and a speaker from Mid America who will talk about the college application and enrollment process. 6:30-8:00 p.m. – College Fair. We have extended invitations to both HBCU's and Offices of Diversity at colleges and Universities in our immediate region. Also included are schools of interest specifically requested for by our students.

Boys State

Applications are now available for 2017 Boys State. See Mr. Butler in student services for information and applications.

JUNIORS AND SENIORS

Johnson County Community College is offering their 2017 Junior/Senior Day on Monday, **February 20th** from 8:30am to 12:00pm. Students can learn all about JCCC Admissions, participate in resource and major fairs, learn in-depth about topics like dual-credit programs, and take a tour of the campus. To register, visit www.jccc.edu/admissions/visit/event.html and click the "Event Registration" button. You can also call 913-469-8500, ext. 4141 to make your reservation.

JUNIORS – 2 Scholarships Available

KC Scholars is a Scholarship available to Kansas City area high school Juniors. Each year, up to 250 Juniors from 6 counties will be awarded up to 10,000/year. The application for this scholarship opens January 2nd, and **closes March 3rd**. Apply here: :

<http://www.kcscholars.org/traditional/>

Please contact Mrs. Cherpitel with questions at jlcherpitel@olatheschools.org, or visit the KC Scholars frequently asked questions page - <http://www.kcscholars.org/traditional-faqs>.

The **Coolidge Scholarship** is a full-ride, four-year, merit scholarship that may be used by recipients for undergraduate study at any accredited college or university in the United States. Any high school junior who plans on enrolling in college in the fall of 2018 is eligible to apply. Coolidge Scholars are selected based on three main criteria: Academic excellence; Interest in public policy and an understanding of the values President Coolidge championed; Humility, service and leadership.

The scholarship application can be found at www.coolidgescholars.org. Please note the deadline is **7:00 PM EST, February 22, 2017**. The Coolidge Scholars Program can be reached by email at coolidgescholars@coolidgefoundation.org or by phone at (802) 672-3389.

Seniors

Seniors interested in receiving FREE help filling out the FAFSA are invited to attend Johnson County Community College's FREE FAFSA event on Sunday, **February 12, 2017** from Noon-3:00 pm in the JCCC Student Center. Please see attached flyer or visit their website at www.jccc.edu/freefafsa for more information on what to bring to complete your FAFSA.

Senior Scholarships

Seniors are reminded to log their scholarships as they earn them at <http://tinyurl.com/seniorscholarships1617>, even if declining the scholarship. This is how we keep track of scholarship amounts and how seniors get to participate in the Senior Signing Ceremony in April. Start logging scholarships today!

College Visits

The following representatives will be on our campus next week:

February 15	Bethel College	8:45 AM
	Lindenwood University	10:15 AM
	Park University	11:00 AM
	Washburn University	1:15 PM
February 16	University of Central Missouri	11:00 AM

For a complete list of college visits go to <http://onwravens.net>.

Upcoming dates

February 10	2 nd semester College Now money deadline to JCCC
February 20	No school – President's Day
February 22	8 th grade/OW transition day
February 27	Spring Sports start
March 6	AP registration deadline
March 10	Last day of 3 rd quarter

March 11-19	Spring Break
March 20	No school – professional development day
April 14	No school – professional development day
April 21	Freshman Awards Breakfast, 7am
April 25	Sophomore Awards Breakfast, 7am
April 28	Junior Awards Breakfast, 7am
April 29	Prom, 8pm-11pm

Senior dates

February 12	FAFSA Help at JCCC 12pm-3pm
March 3	Approximate delivery date of graduation announcements
April 26	Senior Signing, 10am
May 1	Senior Awards, 7pm
May 12	Senior picnic/ticket distribution (in event of inclement weather)
May 16-17	Senior final exams
May 18	No school
May 19	Graduation practice /Senior recognition 10am
May 21	Graduation – 7pm CBAC

Repeated information

Building security

We appreciate that students sometimes forget necessary items at home that then are brought to the school by their parents. Our expectation is that the parent will walk the book, coat, lunch money, etc. to the office, rather than having a student go out to a car to retrieve the item. Having the parent come into the building minimizes the loss of any instructional time and maximizes the safety of our students.

Board of Education Approves Location Change for High School Graduations in 2017

At its January meeting, the Board of Education approved an exciting change that will impact the families of graduating seniors. Citing the crowded gymnasiums and high demand for tickets, the board has moved graduation ceremonies outdoors for the Class of 2017 as a way to better accommodate the families of large graduating classes. The date for graduation will remain Sunday, May 21, but the times and locations will be as follows:

- Olathe East High School graduation at 2 p.m. at College Boulevard Activity Center
- Olathe North High School graduation at 2 p.m. at Olathe District Activity Center
- Olathe Northwest High School graduation at 7 p.m. at College Boulevard Activity Center
- Olathe South High School graduation at 7 p.m. at Olathe District Activity Center

If weather indicates a need to move indoors, that decision would be made by 9 a.m. on graduation Sunday and ceremonies will take place at home high schools. Notices would be sent via the Blackboard communication system to parents, and posted on the district website and social media sites.

Snow days

Many Tools Help Parents Learn of School Cancellations

The winter weather season is here, so parents are encouraged to stay connected with the district in several ways to learn of school cancellations.

When the chance for severe or inclement weather looms, we will only post the cancellation of school, athletic events and other activities. We will not post when school, athletic events and activities are proceeding as scheduled.

If school is canceled due to snow or bad weather, the information will be available in these ways:

- Blackboard notification to parents and staff via text and email information on file
- Local television and radio stations
- District website — <http://www.olatheschools.com>
- Facebook — go to "Olathe Public Schools"
- Twitter — look for "Olathe Schools"
- Channel 18 (Comcast and Time Warner)
- By calling the district information line, 913-780-8000

The new Blackboard notification system replaces the previous Olathe Alert and City Watch systems because of streamlined capabilities to send messages within minutes versus hours. Any parent who is in the district's system, and who has included a cell phone number, will receive a text message in case of the cancellation of school. If there has been a change in a parent's phone number or email address since enrollment, please notify the child's school.

No Early Dismissal

If school is in session when deteriorating weather conditions are present, regular dismissal time will be observed rather than dismissing students early from school. District administrators are mindful of safety issues such as transportation, particularly for those students who normally ride the bus or are driven to and from school; lack of supervision at home because of an unscheduled dismissal; and the uncertainty of sending children away from a protected school environment and out into hazardous weather conditions.

Facility Usage/Building Rental

If school is canceled for the entire day, all facility usage/building rentals will also be canceled. If school has been in session all day but evening district activities are canceled, facility usage/building rentals will also be canceled.

Athletics and Activities

The final decision about whether to cancel school activities will be made at the district level. Administrators understand the importance of these activities, but the safety of students is always of greater importance.

If school has been canceled for the entire day:

- All middle school and elementary school activities (practices, games, and other activities) will be canceled.
- With district-level approval, high school activities may be allowed to take place. This includes practices, contests and travel to events outside the city.
- Updates on the status of scheduled events will be communicated by building administrators, coaches/sponsors when final decisions have been made.

Website updates

People can follow [@ONWHSwebsite](https://twitter.com/ONWHSwebsite) on Twitter to see when new posts have been published on www.onwraavens.net

NEW THIS YEAR FOR SENIORS

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) will be available on October 1, 2016 (used to be January 1). File quickly to maximize your financial aid – questions, please contact Heather Jasper at hjasperonw@olatheschools.org.