

FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED SCHOOL #156



AT KENSINGTON

Get with the



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2020

From the Principal's Desk...

Greetings Olmsted!

November is known as national gratitude month! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents, teachers, support staff and community members for all of the hard work they have been putting forth to make sure our students succeed. Sure, we have faced some challenges, but you have taken those opportunities to continue to teach and find creative solutions that will benefit children. I appreciate everyone's efforts. We are truly a team! I encourage you to reach out to each other for support. If there is something you are facing, we can assist. We are in this together!

#Gratitude #ThankYouOwls

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 2 Lockdown @ 156 (10 a.m.)
- 3 Election Day (No Classes)
- 10 Lockdown @ 156 (1 p.m.)
- 11 Veteran's Day (No Classes)
- 13 Close of 1st Marking Period
- 16 SBMT Meeting
- 23-25 Grade Level Meetings
- 25 Virtual Awards Assembly
- 26-27 Thanksgiving Recess
- 30 Report Card Conferencing

DECEMBER

- 14 Parent/Teacher Conference

Stay

CONNECTED

We miss our students!



www.olmstedatkensington.com

schoolology

Frederick Law Olmsted
School Parent Teacher

ADMINISTRATION:

Principal:

Mrs. Claudio-Cotto

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Assitant Principals:

Mrs. Dulak

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Mr. Fredo

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Ms. Potempa

lrpotempa@buffaloschools.org

CURRENT STANDINGS



In order to monitor how students are doing, our teachers and staff have been reviewing what we call our A++ focus areas: Attendance, Academics and Attitude. Every month, we will share our current standings. A++ is a criterion set forth by our Athletics Department, it has now been extended to all our students.

ATTENDANCE		ACADEMICS:		ATTITUDE:
As of Progress Report 1: October 9, 2020 School-Wide Attendance Rate: 90.73%		As of Progress Report 1: October 9, 2020 School-Wide Course Passing Rate: 77%		As of Progress Report 1: October 9, 2020
Grade Level Attendance:		Grade Level/Department Course Passing:		School Wide Referrals: 28
Grade 5- 91.22%	Grade 9- 90.76%	Grade 5: 90%	English: 71%	
Grade 6- 92.84%	Grade 10- 90.78%	Grade 6: 96%	Math: 62%	
Grade 7- 90.11%	Grade 11- 90.87%	Grade 7: 74%	Science: 73%	
Grade 8- 87.57%	Grade 12 - 92.22%		Social Studies: 73%	

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT PROGRESS IN THESE AREAS?

ATTENDANCE	ACADEMICS:	ATTITUDE:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure your child sets an alarm to wake up on time for school. • Make sure your child is ready for school in the morning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Do they know what letter day it is? ○ Do they know how they will take classes that day? Synchronous? Asynchronous? • Make sure your child is following classroom procedures for checking-in daily: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All students are to check their Schoology classes. ○ All students are to join Teams meetings as directed by their teachers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure your child has a consistent learning space. • Make sure your child is completing class work during school time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Synchronous learning: assignments will be completed with the teacher and sometimes will continue to the next day during asynchronous time. ○ Asynchronous learning: assignments are to be completed during class time to benefit students as they have direct access to the teacher during their class period via Office Hours. • Limit the distractions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe your child's behavior during school time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What are they struggling with? ○ How are they coping with their struggles? • Make sure your child is talking through any challenges they are facing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discuss how can you support your child at home: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Is it necessary to rearrange their schedule and/or learning space? ▪ Is it necessary to limit other distractions you were not aware of?

What if you encountered a problem?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email the teacher directly for timely resolution, within 24 hours. • Reach out to the Main Office for support: (716) 816-4330 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor your child's engagement in class: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Are they participating during class time?</i> • Review your child's Schoology account for the most updated information: assignment completion, current grades, upcoming assignments. • Email the teacher directly for feedback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reach out to your assigned Family Liaison to submit a social-emotional or academic referral on your child's behalf. • Email your child's teachers directly for feedback.
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COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

College Planning: 12th Grade

Want to know if you're on track in the college application process? This checklist shows you what you should be doing, and when.

When you complete steps marked with * you may be eligible for College Board Opportunity Scholarships. Learn more at: cb.org/opportunity.

FALL

- Strengthen Your College List***: Meet with a counselor about your college choices and, if you've not yet done so, download college applications and financial aid forms. Make sure you have a balanced list of academic safety, fit, and reach schools. Plan to visit as many of these colleges as possible.
- Create a master list or calendar that includes:**
 - Tests you'll take and their fees, dates, and registration deadlines
 - College application due dates
 - Required financial aid application forms and their deadlines (aid applications may be due before college applications)
 - Other materials you'll need (recommendations, transcripts, etc.)
 - Your high school's application processing deadlines
- Ask a counselor** to help you request a fee waiver if you can't afford application or test fees.
- Improve Your Score***: Many seniors retake the SAT in the fall. Additional coursework and practice with Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy® since your last test could help you boost your performance. Plus you already know what to expect on test day.
- Be sure** to have your SAT scores sent to the colleges to which you are applying.
- Complete the FAFSA***: To apply for most financial aid, you'll need to complete the FAFSA. Oct. 1 is the first day you can file the FAFSA.
- Complete the CSS Profile**: CSS Profile™ is an online application used by certain colleges and scholarship programs to determine eligibility for their aid dollars.
- Prepare** early decision/early action or rolling admission applications as soon as possible. Nov. 1–15: Colleges may require test scores and applications between these dates for early decision admission.
- Ask a counselor or teacher** for recommendations if you need them. Give each teacher or counselor an outline of your academic record and your extracurricular activities. For each recommendation, provide a stamped, addressed envelope and any college forms required.
- Write first drafts** and ask teachers and others to read them if you're submitting essays. If you're applying for early decision, finish the essays for that application now.
- Apply to College***: Submit your applications to the schools that you want to attend.
- Ask counselors** to send your transcripts to colleges. Give counselors the proper forms at least two weeks before the colleges require them.

WINTER

- Keep photocopies** as you finish, and send your applications and essays.
- Give the correct form** to your counselor if the college wants to see second-semester grades.
- Have your high school send a transcript**—it is sent separately by mail to colleges if you apply online to colleges.

SPRING

- Keep active in school.** If you are waitlisted, the college will want to know what you have accomplished between the time you applied and the time you learned of its decision.
- Visit your final college before accepting.** You should receive acceptance letters and financial aid offers by mid-April. Notify your counselor of your choice. If you have questions about housing offers, talk to your counselor or call the college.
- Inform every college** of your acceptance or rejection of the offer of admission and/or financial aid by May 1. Colleges cannot require your deposit or your commitment to attend before May 1. Talk to your counselor or adviser if you have questions.
- Send your deposit** to one college only.
- Take any AP® Exams.** Show what you've learned in your AP classes. A successful score could even earn you credit, advanced placement, or both in college.
- Waitlisted by a college?** If you intend to enroll if you are accepted, tell the admission director your intent and ask how to strengthen your application. Need financial aid? Ask whether funds will be available if you're accepted.
- Work with a counselor** to resolve any admission or financial aid problems.
- Ask your high school** to send a final transcript to your college.
- Review your financial aid awards:** Not all financial aid awards are the same, so it's important to choose the aid package that's best for you and your family. Be sure to note what you have to do to continue receiving financial aid from year to year, and how your aid might change in future years.

During the COVID-19 Crisis, how have colleges and universities adapted admissions?

Careful consideration of current circumstances has allowed for some accommodations when it comes to admissions. All colleges and universities have changed the way they are deciding whether they are accepting a student. More emphasis will be placed on:

- Mid-Year Grades
- College Essays
- Teacher Recommendations

Colleges have also shifted to a test-optional approach. Which means they are not requiring standardized tests such as SATs and ACTs.

When applying to a specific college, students should contact the Admissions Office to review other requirements, as necessary.

School Counselors will be at Participation in Government classes every Wednesday to address specific questions and concerns.

FINANCIAL AID TIMELINE



2020-21

As you progress through your senior year, we hope this financial aid timeline will help you become familiar with the aid application process. Dates may vary, so check with your campuses of interest to confirm requirements and deadlines. Apply for financial aid early and online, if possible.

Senior Year

July *(or earlier - in your Junior year)*

- › Use these online tools to estimate the cost of attending college:
 - FAFSA4caster at fafsa.gov
 - SUNY Net Price Calculator at suny.edu/howmuch
- › Begin to search for scholarships. The best place to find scholarship information is at your colleges of interest, parents' places of employment, local libraries, high schools, and the web. Websites to start your search:
 - www.fastweb.com
 - studentaid.gov
 - www.scholarships.com
 - bigfuture.org
- › Create a calendar of all deadlines: admissions; scholarships; and financial aid applications.

August

- › Start applying to colleges.

September

- › Start a financial aid folder to keep all financial aid documents organized. Information you should collect for your financial aid folder:
 - Your social security number
 - Your parents' social security numbers and dates of birth
 - Your parents' marital status
 - Tax returns for you and your parents
 - W2s for you and your parents
 - Bank, stock, real estate, and business records for you and your parents
 - Your driver's license number
 - Your alien registration number (for non-U.S. citizens)
- › Create an FSA ID for you and your parent at fafsa.gov.

October

- › File the FAFSA now at fafsa.gov.
- › If you need a paper application, call 1.800.4.FED.AID.

October (continued)

- › New York State residents should apply for the New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). Use the link on the FAFSA confirmation page to go to TAP on the Web. If you need more information, visit www.hesc.ny.gov.
- › If you are a non-New York State resident or an undocumented student, visit www.hesc.ny.gov/dream to determine your eligibility for state aid under the NYS DREAM Act.

November

- › If you have completed the FAFSA:
 - Watch your email for a notice from the U.S. Department of Education with a link to access your Student Aid Report (SAR).
 - Call 1.800.4.FED.AID, if you have not received your SAR.
- › If you have not completed the FAFSA, do so now at fafsa.gov.

December - April

- › New York State residents should apply for the Excelsior Scholarship. For more information regarding application dates and deadlines, visit www.hesc.ny.gov/excelsior.
- › If you qualify for state aid under the NYS DREAM Act, complete the DREAM Act application. For more information regarding application dates and deadlines, visit www.hesc.ny.gov/dream.
- › After you receive your college acceptances, watch for financial aid award letters.
- › Advise financial aid offices, at the colleges you have listed on the FAFSA, of any unusual circumstances that may affect your family's ability to pay for college, such as unemployment or unusual medical expenses.
- › Compare financial aid packages from different schools and choose your college.

May

- › By May 1, notify colleges of your enrollment decision. Accept both offers of admission and financial aid at your college of choice.

June - July

- › Apply for federal student loans, if applicable.

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

During the month of November, the Student Support Team will be rolling out new initiatives to address students' social emotional well-being. Additional resources for students will be available via the Schoology Group, 2020-21 Olmsted at Kensington School News, under the resources folder. When students access the page, they will be able to gain access to:

- Lunch social time rooms
- Club Meetings
- Student Support Team Office Hours
- Crisis Support and Community Resources
- Mindfulness, Stress and Anxiety Resources
- Self Care
- Ms. Tomaino's Calming Room

For more information on SST initiatives, the referral process and resources, contact Ms. Potempa.

The screenshot shows a Schoology group interface. On the left is a sidebar with the group logo 'FLO News' and 'OLMSTED 156'. Below the logo are navigation options: Group Options, Updates, Discussions, Albums, Members (919), Resources (selected), Nearpod, and Conferences. An 'Access Code' box displays 'W7HJ-N8XJ-PQH2G' with a 'Reset' link. Below that is an 'Information' section with 'Category: Other' and a 'Leave this group' link.

The main content area is titled '2020-2021 Olmsted at Kensington School News' and includes a 'Notifications' button. Below the title is a 'Resources' section with 'Add Resources' and 'Options' dropdowns. A table lists the resources:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Title	8 of 8
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lunch Social Time These are links for Lunch time meeting rooms. Feel free to join your lunch group to chat with friends. Added by LESLIE POTEPA - Oct 28, 2020	⚙️
<input type="checkbox"/>	Links for Club Meetings Added by ROBERT MAULUCCI - Oct 29, 2020	⚙️
<input type="checkbox"/>	Student Support Office Hours The Student Support Team will have open office hours Monday through Friday from 9:00 am- 9:40 am to provide additional support for Olmsted students. Students can log on at anytime during this period and speak with a member of the SST Team. Just click here. Monday- Mr. Van Remmen (Guidance) Tuesday- Ms. Tomaino (Social Worker) Wednesday- Miss Lukasik (Guidance) Thursday- Mrs. LaRuffa (School Psychologist) Friday- Mrs. LaRuffa (School Psychologist) Added by ALYCIA TOMAINO - Oct 29, 2020	⚙️
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crisis Support and Community Resources Contact information for crisis support, counseling, and support groups Added by ALYCIA TOMAINO - Oct 23, 2020	⚙️
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mindfulness Activities to help you focus your awareness on the present moment Added by ALYCIA TOMAINO - Oct 29, 2020	⚙️
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stress and Anxiety Resources to help you understand and manage stress or anxiety Added by ALYCIA TOMAINO - Oct 26, 2020	⚙️
<input type="checkbox"/>	Self Care Suggested activities to enhance emotional and physical well being Added by ALYCIA TOMAINO - Oct 29, 2020	⚙️
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ms. Tomaino's Calming Room An interactive room with many links to self-care activities such as yoga, breathing exercises, music, mindful coloring, journaling, and much more! Click on the various objects in the room and try it out! Added by ALYCIA TOMAINO - Oct 29, 2020	⚙️

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

WELCOME ATS!

Olmsted would like to welcome the Canisius College Academic Talent Search program. ATS can provide students with a variety of academic supports including but not limited to:

- Career Exploration
- College Application Process
- Financial Literacy Workshops
- Celebrity Speaker Series
- Mentoring
- Tutoring
- Social Media Etiquette Workshops
- Annual HBCU College Tour
- Earn While You Learn Summer Program

CANISIUS COLLEGE
ACADEMIC TALENT SEARCH

TRIO



With the pandemic, **all services are available virtually**. If you are interested, please fill out an application at <https://admissions.canisius.edu/register/academictalentsearch>

REPORT CARD CONFERENCING

To further support student success, teachers will be reaching out to parents and families at the close of Marking Period 1 to schedule report card conferences for students that are struggling academically.

Conversations will be focused on creating student-centered plans that will allow for greater success. Factors that will be considered during the meeting include but are not limited to attendance, academics and social emotional health.

All conferences will be held virtually, during the school day, from November 23-25. If you are not able to attend a conference, alternate arrangements will be made. **Your child matters! We are here to help!**

VIRTUAL CLUBS



We're in this together.

Information on school pictures and Senior portraits will be forthcoming!



SENIOR SENATE
Class of
2021