

NEWS FROM THE MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

SEPTEMBER 2001

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PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Welcome to the 2001-02 school year. At both the high school and the middle school we have a number of new students registered for classes. This means that there will be lots of new faces (and some returning faces) to enliven the start of the school year.

Please plan to attend the **Back to School Nights** on Tuesday, September 25th for middle school and Wednesday, September 26th for high school. Come and meet our teachers, and bring your questions, concerns and suggestions. The middle school program begins at 7PM and the high school program at 6:30PM.

In addition to these Back to School Nights, please don't hesitate to make an appointment or request a phone call so that you can discuss your student with his/her teacher(s) at the beginning of the year or any time.

If you would like to be further involved in the school programs, please attend our first **Site Council** meetings on Tuesday, September 18th at 8:15AM for middle school and on Wednesday, September 19th at 3:15PM for high school. At both of these meetings we will be discussing our school plans and goals for this school year including the results of the state tests and student/parent surveys from last spring.

This is a year for a self-study which means that we take extra time to look carefully at our schools and at the results of our efforts with our students. The surveys that were given to parents, students and staff last spring are one part of the self study. During this school year, we will be working individually and in groups to examine each of the areas of our school. We will produce a report on our self study which will include updates to both long and short term goals. In the spring, we will invite a team of educators to come to the schools and discuss our findings with us. Parents may participate in this endeavor through the Site Council meetings at the middle or high school or through the Strategic Planning meetings for the district.

We have tried to include information in this newsletter that will be helpful to parents and students as they begin the new school year. If you have other questions or concerns, please call the school office at 376-2287.

SAT REGISTRATION

Students who are planning to take the October SAT, need to pick up register by mid September. Registration materials are in the office. If you want to take the Fall SAT test, pick up your registration materials soon.

SPORTS PROGRAMS

High School **Football, Volleyball and Soccer** began practice the week of August 20th. The football coach is Dennis Dahl, the volleyball coach is Jake Paul and the soccer coach is Terry Turner. Any high school student who did not come for the first week of practices is still welcome to come and join a team.

Please remember that students cannot practice until all of the paperwork is complete(which includes a physical) and fees are paid. Messages for the coaches or for Al Brisbois, our athletic director, can be left at the school office(376-2287).

The **athletic department needs volunteers to work at the football and volleyball games** taking tickets. We could use 3 people each game and would ask them to be at the game about an hour before the starting time. Please call athletic director, Al Brisbois (376-2287) , if you would like to volunteer yourself or someone else to help with this important activity.

Middle School sports will not begin until after the start of school on September 4th. Middle school students are also required to have a physical and other paperwork completed before they begin practice. If your student is interested in starting the school year by playing either soccer or volleyball, you should arrange for a sports physical before school begins.

Susan Aspinall is the coach of the **Crew** team which is not a school sport but has a number of student participants.

STAFF CHANGES

We have many staff changes this year and are fortunate to have found so many highly qualified people to join us. Please come to Back to School Nights in September to meet our new people. You may already know many of them, as some of them are long time residents of the island.

Much to our regret, **Pamela Connors** has resigned her teaching position at the high school. Pamela was to teach Integrated Math 1 and Integrated Math 3. Now Gregory Books will teach the Integrated Math 1 and Vicki Clancy will teach the Integrated Math 3.

To continue with the unhappy news, **Paul Evans** has also resigned his position at the high school. In order to provide a smooth transition both for the students and the new teacher, he will begin the school year with his regular classes and will remain until we have found a suitable replacement. We are currently preparing to interview applicants for this position.

Paula Russell who has taught drama to both young people and adults will be joining us this year to teach Theater Arts at the high school during first semester. She will also be doing a spring drama production at the Orcas Center.

Gregory Books is an experienced science and math teacher and will be teaching Biology, Integrated Math 1 and Environmental Science. Dennis McKinney is still with us but now he has to share his "Science Mansion".

Sam Windsor is a highly trained and experienced engineer and will be teaching AP Physics this year. His students should have already received a packet of information about the class.

Mark Padbury is a cabinetmaker who has been teaching an evening class for adults through Skagit College. He will now also be teaching Woodworking to our high school students.

Kari Schuh is a highly trained special education teacher and is replacing Page Bristow. She will be teaching high school special education classes.

Catherine Laffin has been working with home schooled students and will now also be our new middle school remedial teacher. She will be working in our skills program at the middle school with students who need to improve their reading and writing skills.

Jan Reid is an experienced artist and has been assisting in art classes at the high school. She is replacing Keri Straka and will be teaching 2D Art and Ceramics classes.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Please save the evening of **Tuesday, September 25th** at **7PM** for our Middle School Back to School Night. On that evening, parents are invited to come to school to meet our middle school staff and learn about our middle school programs. Mark your calendars, gather up your questions and plan to attend this important evening. We will begin at 7PM with a brief meeting in the cafeteria. Then you will be invited to spend time with your student's teachers.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT FOR HIGH SCHOOL

Our High School Back to School Night is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 26th at 6:30PM**. You will have the opportunity to visit each of your student's classrooms, which means attending six different classes in one evening. Therefore, we begin at 6:30PM in the cafeteria for a very short introduction and orientation; then you will follow your student's schedule of classes.

SITE COUNCIL

One way to become involved and to be informed about the secondary school program and plans is to come to the School Site Council. Parents and community members are invited to attend one meeting or all of them. There is one Site Council for high school and one for middle school and both are composed of teaching staff from the middle or high school and any interested parents or community members. At these meetings we discuss the school plans and goals for the year. We review test scores and study individual programs such as the vocational program or the learning alternative program or the language arts, or math, etc. This year our focus will be on completing our schools self study which is an in-depth study of all or most of our school programs.

Our first meeting for this year will be on Tuesday, September 18th at 8:15AM for middle school and on Wednesday, September 19th at 3:15PM for high school. Parents of middle and high school students, as well as interested members of the community are welcome to attend these meetings. Our topics for these first meetings will include new program plans for this year, a review of last year's school goals and discussion of this year's school goals and our planned self-study.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Picture Day for the middle and high school is Thursday, September 20th. Information will be sent home with students early in September about the photo day. Seniors can use the school photo as their senior photo for the yearbook or they can use another professional photo.

MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPLORATORY/SKILLS CLASSES

On the first or second day of school, middle school students will be given information and a class selection form for **exploratory classes** for this year. We will be offering a variety of classes again this year including Computer Applications, Leadership, Foods, Sewing, and Art. We will be offering sailing once again this year thanks to the sponsorship and assistance of Bill Harris and the Sailing Foundation and Janet Acker and the Junior Sailing Program.

Exploratory classes will be taught on "**Skills Days**" which will be on Monday and Thursday. On those days, middle school students will attend their regular 8:30 – 9:25 Life Skills or PE classes. Then they will have skills classes in several areas including reading, math, grammar and vocabulary. In addition to specific skills classes students will have their exploratory and music classes on these days.

Skills days and exploratories will not start until the week of September 10th. Before we can begin, we need to have all students select their exploratory classes and teachers need to place students in the correct skills classes. In order to correctly place students, teachers will be giving students math and reading tests during the first few days of school.

ASSIGNMENT/CALENDAR BOOKS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

All middle school students will be expected to purchase and use a school assignment/calendar book. These are available at the school office for \$3 and can be purchased before school begins or during the first week of classes. As of the writing of this newsletter, the calendar books have not arrived but they are expected to be available before school begins.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle School students will be divided into three groups for their first class of the day. One half of the 7th

graders will have Life Skills with **Nancy Wrightsman**, our school counselor. The other half of the 7th grade and all of the 8th graders will have PE with one of our PE teachers, **Cindy Elliott** or **Dennis Dahl**. On the first day of school, all students should report to the old gym where there will be staff members to help them get organized for PE and begin their first day.

All middle school students should report to the old gym at 8:30 on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 4th.

After PE or Life Skills, the students will report to their AM classes. This will be either Math/Science or Language Arts/Social Studies. The 7th grade teachers are **Lyn Perry** for Language Arts/Social Studies and **David Lamb** for Math/Science. The 8th grade teachers are **Kathi Anderson** for Language Arts/Social Studies and **Pete Vraspir** for Math/Science.

Middle school class lists for PE, Life Skills and AM/PM classes will be posted on the classroom doors and windows of the middle school and of the old gym. There will be staff available in the courtyard and around the classrooms and gym to welcome students and help them to find the right rooms after they are finished in the old gym.

All students should come to school with their school materials including a binder, pens, pencils and paper. Assignment books may be purchased before school begins or during the first week of school.

School begins at 8:30 and all students will be dismissed at 12:00 on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 4th.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR HIGH SCHOOL

High School students will go to their **B day classes on Tuesday, September 4th**, the first day. All three classes will meet on the following time schedule:

1ST PERIOD	8:30	- 9:35
2ND PERIOD	9:40	- 10:45
BREAK	10:45	- 10:55
3RD PERIOD	11:00	- 12:00

On **Wednesday, September 5th**, high school students will attend all 6 of their classes. This is a change from former years in which we had an A or B Friday that rotated each week. This year the weekly schedule will remain the same. A days will be on Mondays and Thursdays. B days will be on Tuesdays and Fridays. Wednesday will be a 6 period day.

6TH PERIOD DAY SCHEDULE

1 ST PERIOD (1A)	8:30	9:25
2 ND PERIOD (2A)	9:30	10:25
BREAK	10:25	10:35
3 RD PERIOD (3A)	10:35	11:30
4 TH PERIOD (1B)	11:35	12:30
LUNCH	12:30	1:15
5 TH PERIOD (2B)	1:15	2:10
6 TH PERIOD (3B)	2:15	3:05

Computer printouts of class schedules, including teacher names and room numbers will be available on before school begins and on the first days of school for any student who needs/wants another copy of their schedule. Staff members will be available in the high school commons and classrooms to welcome students and to help them find their way to their classes.

9th graders and new students, or any students who would like to do so, are welcome to come to the high school before the first day of classes to find their way to their classrooms.

Students should come prepared to have classes on the first day. That means to bring binders, paper, pens, and pencils for class and PE clothes, if the student has PE on the first day.

Students who have PE should be sure to purchase a school lock or to bring the one that they purchased and used in middle school. It is important to lock up all personal items securely while students are at PE. 9th and 10th graders will need assignment books which may be purchased for \$3 before school begins or during the first week of school.

HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULES

High School students have been coming in to the office to make changes or corrections to their schedules. If you know that you want to make or need to make changes in your schedule, it is a good idea to do this before school begins on September 4th.

If you would like to make changes, remember to complete the Request for a Change of Schedule form that was included with your schedule. We must have a parent signature to make the change for you and there must be space in the new classes you wish to add. Students and/or parents are welcome to come in and talk about schedules or transcripts with Mrs. Kline or Mrs. Wrightsman. In order to be sure that someone is available to speak with you, please call for an appointment.

ASSIGNMENT/CALENDAR BOOKS FOR HIGH SCHOOL

All 9th and 10th grade students in the high school will be expected to purchase and use a school assignment/calendar book. These are available from the school office for \$3. The books may be purchased before school begins or during the first week of classes. 11th and 12th grade students are welcome to purchase a school calendar as long as supplies are available.

PE LOCKS

All students who have PE will be assigned a locker or a locking basket to hold their personal items while at PE. Lockers/baskets should be locked so a lock is an important item to own. Students may use the locks they purchased in high school or in middle school. If you have forgotten the combination to your school lock, you can still use the lock. Just bring the lock in to school and the PE teachers can find the combination for you. If you think that other students know your lock combination, you should consider purchasing a new lock. New locks are available at the school office for \$5.

STUDENT MATERIALS MIDDLE SCHOOL

The following is a list of basic equipment needed for students. Other items may be required for specific projects or classes:

1. Colored Pencils (Box of 36 or bigger)
2. Pens (Blue or black ink only)
3. Pencils
4. 1 1/2 – 2 inch ring binder with dividers
5. Metal Ruler (Metric)
6. Calculator (Basic)
7. Scissors
8. College-ruled paper
9. 3 Spiral Notebooks
10. Container to hold supplies
11. Gum eraser

STUDENT MATERIALS HIGH SCHOOL

The following is a list of basic equipment needed for students. Other items may be required for specific projects or classes:

1. A sturdy 3-ring binder and dividers.

2. A pen/pencil pouch for the notebook.
3. Pens and pencils. (many teachers require pens to be either blue or black ink)
4. Erasers.
5. One or more spiral notebooks. Buy the kind with perforated pages for easy/neat removal
6. Notebook paper (college ruled is preferred for some classes).
7. A calculator that you know how to use.

KEY CLUB INVITES STUDENTS TO MEMBERSHIP

Joining Key Club is a great way for students to participate in community service activities. Key Club is an international high school service organization sponsored by the Kiwanis Club. It is dedicated to serving the school and the community. A membership drive will begin in September to recruit new members. Membership is open to all high school students.

Last school year members of the OHS Chapter of Key Club participated in many worthwhile projects with community organizations such as the Kiwanis, American Legion, Chamber of Commerce, Family Resource Center, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Task Force, Teen Tutoring Program, Orcas Island Friends of the Library, Eastsound Beautification Committee, Boys and Girls Club, Fire District, and helped at many school functions. Other club sponsored activities included a food drive, gathering clothing and school supplies for Kosovo, candy sales and an April Fool's Day Dance fund raiser.

Weekly meetings are held on Wednesdays at lunchtime in room 608.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE TRAINING PROGRAM (CRT)

Students enrolled in CRT are encouraged to complete the CRT application form and the necessary paperwork and get it turned in by the end of the first week of school. If a student already has a job, chances are he/she can earn school credit while working. School credit for CRT is either elective or vocational credit.

The CRT Program is a work-based learning program whereby students receive high school credit for training and/or working at a training site. This program gives students the opportunity to learn new job skills, explore an area of career interest, and gain basic work experience while earning high school credit.

Students must be 16 years of age to participate, and work a minimum of five hours a week. Hours can be flexible--during a regular class time, after school, or on weekends. There are many training sites available with local businesses.

If you are interested in learning more about the CRT program, contact Kay Grossman, CRT Coordinator, at school or by calling 376-2287(W) or 376-4989(H). Enrollment application forms are also available in the high school office.

Members of the Orcas Island business community are also encouraged to contact the CRT coordinator if they are interested in having a student trainee work with them.

SENIORS' PHOTOS NEEDED FOR YEARBOOK

All seniors need to bring in their senior photo for this year's yearbook before the end of September. This photo must be in color and be a professional quality photo. You may bring in the photo in paper or digital format, just be sure that it is in the hands of the yearbook staff before the end of September. Yearbook staff may be able to arrange for a local photographer to take senior photos at a discounted rate. If you are interested in having a local photographer take senior photos, please ask Paul Evans about after school begins.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the students at Orcas Island Middle and Orcas Island High School who earned honor roll and high honor status for the last grading period of the 2000-2001 school year. Students will be recognized for their achievement during school assemblies on the first days of school this year.

Orcas Island Middle/High Schools

Honor Roll

3.25-3.49

June 2001

7TH GRADE

Maarta Vandenberg
Tiffany Holtman
Tai Agnew
Patrick Doherty
Brienne Sandlin
Nate Avera
Tyson Royal
Darby Sawyer
J.B. Bitzer

8TH GRADE

Lilly Ryder
Makayla Speed
Kate Denning
Patrick Stevens

9TH GRADE

Kashia Phipps
Ryan Harvey
Jon Russell
Zac Parkerson
Jason Green

10TH GRADE

Chris Bennett
Courtney Breslauer
William (Wills) Fritzbeg

11TH GRADE

Sadie Evans
Saul Sasan
Brennan Shore
Jacqueline Taylor

12TH GRADE

Sarah Wixom
Pamela Conners
Zoanna Jones
Jason Allen
Joy Carrick
Michelle Troutman
Mark Nichols
Jennifer Scheckel

High Honor Roll

3.50-4.00

June 2001

7TH GRADE

Hailee Douglas
Jenole Peacock
Lindsay Tellefsen
Muriel Gallo-Chasanoff
William (Woody) Ciskowski
Minta Allred
Domonique Pinaridi
Valerie Plummer
Afton Jones
Jenny Boucher
Sidney Hayworth
Chandler Stone
Chase Cooper
Miles Murphy
Winslow Moran-Hodges
Sophie Sisson
Cameron Kamphaus
Sarah Fuchser-McKinstry

8TH GRADE

Rachel Harvey
Michael Rupp
Zach Smith
McLane Stone
Zorah Oppenheimer
Becca Parish
Amanda Callahan
Lindsay Brunius
Josh Gage
Colin Gaylord

9TH GRADE

Madeleine Tuson-Turner
Andrew (Indy) Zoeller
Theodora (Teddy) Coleman
Angela Boucher
Walter O'Toole
Marriah Vinson
Jesse Russell
Jacqueline Guilford
Rob Kihlstrom
Natasha Warachowski
John Wulff
Barry Jones
Carlin Hayworth
Stephanie Brunius

Megan Swanland
Jacob Bossler
Sarah Averka
Megan Sanders
Amanda Duryee-Peterson

10TH GRADE

Kimmy Clancy
Julianne Garritan
Kathleen Kline
Lyria Shaffer-Bauch
Christiana Speed
Drew Gutschmidt
Crystal Taylor
Cynthia Zimbelman
Amy Berdan
Stephen Humes
Zach Lefton
Blaine Buscher
Suzi Conners
Anna Storey
Scott Wrobel
Megan Batzle
Kate Hansen
Danielle Johanneck
James Reid
Cathy Bishop
Vanessa Button
Jordan Gage
Katie Wrightsman
Zach Robertson
Shanda Smith
Jesse Anderson
Jessica Briggs

11TH GRADE

Travis Anderson
Terra Armstrong
Jessica Kihlstrom
Lily Durland
Caitlan Greene
Blake Fleischer
Alison Graham
Rob Harvey
Karina Rodriguez
Tony Clark
Boone McKinney
Christina Cantwell
Tara Linnes
Aaron Schmidt
Anne Kenady

12TH GRADE

Kelsey O'Brien
Adam Gage
Rose Sharp
Kelli Patterson
Kim Hardy
Whittnie Daniels
Robert France
Ingen Dahl
Morgan Hellar
Alice Evans
Hilary Rancourt
Dustin Fox
Claire West

**Understanding and Accessing Treatment
An Information Session
Sponsored by Orcas Island Prevention Partnership**

On Tuesday, September 18, 3:30 PM, at the Orcas Island School Library, Janice Pepin, Director of San Juan Recovery Center, will lead an information session on the services available for treating alcohol and other substance abuse. The presentation will address recognizing the signs of dependence and what takes place during an assessment. It will look at the differences between in-patient and out-patient treatment, and how families and friends can support an

individual through this process. There will be time for questions and an opportunity to talk about supporting youth who appear to be at risk for substance abuse.

The primary goal of prevention is to support a healthy lifestyle whereby youth and adults do not abuse substances and/or face the challenges of addiction. At one time, over 40% of the American population smoked cigarettes. Through education and prevention efforts, that figure has fallen dramatically to a lifetime occurrence of about 25% of the population. Though there is an increasing awareness and commitment to help people avoid the abuse of other addictive substances including alcohol, one in 10 individuals in our country are abusing substances, dealing with addiction, or in recovery. One in four children and youth are or have been impacted by a family member's problems with alcohol.

When abuse become addiction, the substance becomes the single most powerful motivator in the substance abuser's life. Denial and shame frequently interfere with a person's willingness to get help. Treatment is often essential to break the downward cycle and to promote healing and change. This presentation should be helpful for parents, teachers, and professionals as well as community members interested in learning more about treatment and providing support for individuals who may need such services. For further information, you may contact OIPP at 376-5259.