THE WARRIOR WAY

December 2023
Open Enrollment For 2024-2025

Ontario Local Schools will begin accepting applications for Open Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year on Friday March 1, 2024 on the school website at www.ontarioschools.org. Fill out the application online under the Parents tab. A separate application is required for each student applying in this program, and every student must apply yearly. It is the parent/guardian’s responsibility to complete and submit the Open Enrollment Application(s).

The staff and administration at Ontario Local Schools are extremely pleased with the state report card data. A large focus has been on the Performance Index score, as we believe that measure shows the most accurate picture of how all of your students are performing. This year we scored a 94.4 on that measure, which was the highest score in Richland County. We are grateful to our students, parents and teachers for all of their efforts to support quality education.

Unique to Ontario Local Schools is our support of gifted and accelerated students. Starting in fifth grade, we have accelerated students that are performing at a high level in various subject areas. There are approximately 25-30 students in each grade level who are now taking a state test that is above their assigned grade level. This challenge and opportunity has allowed our accelerated students to flourish.

One under-appreciated aspect of the school report card is the financial component. Ontario schools spends the lowest amount per pupil in the county, by a wide margin. From a business perspective, getting high-end results for the lowest expenditures is a point of pride for our district.

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Ultimately, we view the state report card as just one piece of a much larger educational picture. We take pride in our results, but we will always prioritize the needs of students above a data point.

Performance Index: The Performance Index measures the test results of every student, not just those who score proficient or higher. Schools and districts receive points on the index for every student who takes a test.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School District</th>
<th>Performance Index Score</th>
<th>Performance Index Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ontario (Highest)</td>
<td>94.4</td>
<td>86.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexington</td>
<td>94.3</td>
<td>86.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelby</td>
<td>89.7</td>
<td>82.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas</td>
<td>87.5</td>
<td>80.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crestview</td>
<td>85.2</td>
<td>78.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearfork</td>
<td>86.6</td>
<td>79.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>82.3</td>
<td>75.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plymouth</td>
<td>86.9</td>
<td>79.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mansfield</td>
<td>64.6</td>
<td>55.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School District</th>
<th>Operating Spending Per Pupil</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ontario (Lowest Spending, $2,889 per student less that the state average)</td>
<td>$0,007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexington</td>
<td>$10,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearfork</td>
<td>$10,158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>$11,670</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shelby</td>
<td>$11,494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mansfield</td>
<td>$13,307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crestview</td>
<td>$13,570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas</td>
<td>$14,079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plymouth</td>
<td>$11,670</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
By Randy Harvey

As Treasurer of the Ontario Local School District, it has been my priority to operate with integrity, fiscal responsibility, and transparency. In this effort, you can review the Ontario School’s financial plans for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

I look forward to communicating with you, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (419) 747-4311 or harvey.randy@olsohio.org.
**Placement Priority**

**For Preschool**

*The order applications are received does not determine priority.*

**Priority placement is as follows:**

**Ontario Residents**
1. Resident special need students
2. Resident students who are returning Preschool students
3. Dependent children of Ontario resident staff members
4. Resident 5-year-old students not going into Kindergarten
5. Resident 4-year-old students
6. Resident 3-year-old students

**Tie-breakers will be**
1. Sibling of a registered Preschool student
2. Order of received registration

**Non-Residents will then be considered based on**
1. Dependent Children of Non-Resident Ontario Staff Members
2. Open Enrollment Students

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**Points of Pride**
- Put on and zip a coat and bookbag
- Put backpack on a hook without assistance
- Count to 10
- Recognize 13 letters
- Recognize colors and shapes
- Share and cooperate with a same-age peer
- Open items in a packed lunch
- Recognize name in print
- Use the restroom independently

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**Benefits of Play**

Playing is critical to child development, and what adults are often quick to term “just playing” actually helps children develop cognitively, physically, and emotionally. For example, being able to cross the midline while drawing shapes or cutting with scissors helps children learn how to read across the page. Measuring in the sand/water table helps students recognize volume and capacity. Learning to cooperate and share develops citizenship. These small acts of playing can translate to big educational gains. From the Stingel webpage, follow the Preschool link to access Playing and Learning Resources.
**Early Childhood Growth & Development**

**Fine Motor Skills**
The use of hand-eye coordination, manipulation of objects, and visually crossing the mid-line of the body.

**Ideas to build these skills:**
Use play-doh to build; stack blocks; button shirt/coat; zip a zipper; hold and use a fat marker/crayon using a pincer grasp; draw a circle, square, and a plus sign.

**Gross Motor Skills**
The use of the large muscles, such as the ability to be able to cross the mid-line, as well as balance and coordinate large muscle movements.

**Ideas to build these skills:**
Play outside; run, jump, hop, gallop, skip; climb stairs/ladders; use the slide; catch a ball (larger sizes first, then move to smaller as they get older); walk on a balance beam; keep a balloon in the air.

**Communication Skills**
The ability to express needs and wants, ask for help, answer simple questions, use words to express emotions (such as frustration or sadness), understand verbal directions/commands.

**Ideas to build these skills:**
Answer simple questions about a book that was read to them; label colors, shapes, and some body parts, household objects, and familiar people; understand pronouns (he, she, they, you, us); state their first and last name and tell their age; describe objects (blue block; big blue block); understand questions (what, where); respond to directions (1-step and 2-step).

**Cognitive Skills**
The acquisition of academic skills that is experienced through play.

**Ideas to build these skills:**
- **Math:** Size (big/small), volume (water in a bucket, measuring cups, etc.); rote counting, number recognition.
- **Science:** Cause/effect, learning through nature (apples, pumpkins, etc.), hands-on experiments.
- **Social Studies:** Community, family, school.
- **Literacy:** Letter recognition, writing concepts, speaking.

**Social-Emotional Skills**
The capacity to interact with peers and understanding emotions.

**Ideas to build these skills:**
Turn-taking with adults and peers; understand and accept no; wait their turn; play board games.

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**2024-2025 Kindergarten Registration**

*Registration begins Thursday, February 1.*

➤ Office open from 4:30-7:30 p.m. on February 1 and 8 for those working during the day.

➤ Anyone enrolled by March 31, 2024 will receive a free Ontario Kindergarten T-Shirt.

Complete the Final Forms available on the website. After the completion of the online forms, come to the Stingel Elementary office beginning February 1, between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Please bring your child's birth certificate, proof of residency, immunization record, and any related custody papers. To enroll in Kindergarten, a child must be five years old on or before August 1, 2024. A developmental screening will be scheduled for August at the time of registration.

**Ontario Residents ONLY**

www.ontarioschools.org
Ontario Stingel Elementary

A Partnership To Help Those In Need
Stingel Elementary partnered with the Ontario Lions Club to hold an eyeglass drive, where students brought in gently used eyeglasses to donate to the Lions Club. Stingel collected over 170 pairs of eyeglasses. Congratulations to Mrs. Jolin's class for collecting the most eyeglasses. The Lions Club had a pizza party for Mrs. Jolin's class. Through the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center, used eyeglasses are collected, sorted, washed, and evaluated for prescription strength. It is a privilege to partner and serve with the Lions club.

Honoring Those Who Serve Our Country

Points of Pride
We are in our second year of implementing *Fundations* at Stingel. *Fundations* utilizes a structured literacy approach grounded in the science of reading to make learning to read fun, while also laying the groundwork for lifelong literacy. It is research-based, structured reading, spelling, and handwriting curriculum that is engaging and uses multisensory techniques.

This year, we have also begun implementing The Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum. It is a daily phonemic awareness lesson that is fast, effective, and fun. Students are participating in both programs and are able to use the skills to improve their reading and writing.

Stingel received the Silver Award for Ohio’s Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Recognition System. Each year, the Ohio Department of Education and the PBIS Network recognize schools and districts for their quality and fidelity of PBIS implementation. We are excited to receive this award and are continuing to work on following the Warrior Way: Being Respectful, Responsible, and Ready to Learn. Students are doing a great job in all areas.

Students who follow the Warrior Way are able to participate in monthly celebrations. In September, students played kickball. In October, they had a Glow Party, and in November, students played Turkey Bowling.

As part of Fire Prevention Week, local EMT and fire personnel stopped by to show students their vehicles and emergency safety equipment. Ontario Local Schools encourages our families to implement safety practices to prevent fires and make plans in case of a fire.
Sixth grade students took part in the Dare to Dream Peace Poster Contest sponsored by the Lions Club. The overall winner of the contest this year was Emma Boor. Her work will move on to a regional competition and represent the Ontario Lions Club and Ontario Middle School. Contest runner-ups include Phebe Hipsher, Aileen Steiding Mora, and Sylvia Burns. Great job Warriors!

We ask you to join us in congratulating these Warriors and all of their outstanding work!

Points of Pride
Ontario would like to recognize our very own choir director, Megan Hiler, and her participation in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. In addition to performing, she also took part in a wreath laying ceremony at the 9/11 Memorial and advocated on national news for music education. Congrats Mrs. Hiler! You exemplify Warrior Pride.

On The Horizon
Student scheduling for 2024-2025 will begin in January.
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day January 14
OMS Parent-Teacher Conferences February 8 & 15 from 4:00-7:30 p.m.
Presidents’ Day February 19
Early Release March 8 & 14
Spring Break March 29 - April 5
Remote Learning Solar Eclipse April 8
Early Release May 2

Traditions Of Excellence
Ontario Middle School celebrates students who consistently display the Pillars put forth by the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports Recognition System (PBIS). PBIS reinforces The Warrior Way Pillars, which are Grit, Honor, and Integrity. Students are issued points for displaying those character traits throughout the day and then redeem those points for prizes twice a month. Some students save their points to purchase larger incentives, while other students enjoy buying small prizes every other week with their points. The OMS staff is proud to celebrate students who do the right thing each day.

What Are Grit Points?
Students earn three Grit Points for each class where they arrive on-time and prepared to learn. The school has experienced better period attendance rates than in years past by incentivizing their attendance. Students can earn additional Grit Points throughout the day for working hard, being self-disciplined, and going above and beyond to achieve academic and social goals throughout the day.

There is also a contest in each grade level. During study hall, or Warrior Time, the class with the highest number of Grit Points accumulated at each grade level wins the “Grit Chain” for the month. Along with winning the Grit Chain, students earn a free Warrior Time with OMS administration.

The OMS administration would like to thank Parker Willis for his commitment to the daily announcements. Parker is responsible for the entire process, from recruiting daily anchors, collecting the announcements, recording, editing, and scheduling. Announcements are then played on the website and over the PA. Parker uses his free time to provide the announcements at OMS. Thank you, Parker!

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What Are Grit Points?
For the upcoming 2024-25 school year at Ontario High School, students will be tasked with crafting their class schedule throughout the months of February and March. The courses they choose will significantly shape their high school experience, influencing their educational journey. In February, students will receive a comprehensive course offering guide. It is imperative for them to thoroughly examine this guide, paying special attention to sections outlining graduation and college requirements, course prerequisites, programs of study, and career planning. To ensure well-informed decisions that align with individual needs and interests, students will have opportunities to seek guidance from school personnel. These discussions are designed to steer students toward academic choices that align with their long-term goals.

Ontario High School Guidance Office: 419-529-7010
Newsletters and information are available at: http://www.ontarioschools.org/Guidance_HS.aspx

Freshmen Orientation: Current eighth grade students and their parents are invited to an informative session about scheduling classes for the freshman year, understanding graduation prerequisites, and exploring co-curricular and extracurricular opportunities throughout their four years at OHS. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 8, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. and will take place in the auditorium.

2024-2025 Scheduling Dates:

**Freshmen: Class of 2028** (Current 8th Grade)
- February 8: Freshmen Orientation in High School Auditorium 7:00 p.m.
- February 23: Incoming freshmen submit course requests

**Sophomores: Class of 2027** (Current 9th Grade)
- March 4: Sophomores submit course requests

**Juniors: Class of 2026** (Current 10th Grade)
- February 22: Juniors submit course requests
- February 23: Pioneer applications due

**Seniors: Class of 2025** (Current 11th Grade)
- February 23: Pioneer applications due
- March 6: Seniors submit course request

**College Credit Plus**
- April 1: Deadline to apply for CCP courses both in the high school guidance office and to the college issuing credit for the course.
- Students must apply to the college or university where they are interested in taking the course.
- Students must qualify for CCP courses by taking a placement test or by meeting a qualifying score on the ACT and cumulative GPA.
- Check with your guidance counselor for specific requirements for each CCP course.
End-Of Course (EOC) Testing:
The EOC testing schedule for the 2023-24 school year is provided below. Attendance at school is mandatory only for students enrolled in the classes being tested on each given day. The testing format involves Part I in the morning and Part II after lunch. Students not involved in the EOC tests are excused for the day and are not required to be present at school. On days with a 2-hour delay for testing, buses will operate at their regular time for students reliant on them to reach school. These students should report to the commons area until the designated testing time.

- **April 15** ELA II  
  *(Regular Bell Schedule & Report Time)*

- **April 23** Biology  
  *(2-Hour Delay Schedule)*

- **April 25** American History & Government  
  *(2-Hour Delay Schedule)*

- **April 29** Algebra 1 & Geometry EOC  
  *(2-Hour Delay Schedule)*

ACT Testing:

- **March 5**: Pre-Registration for the ACT. Juniors (including Pioneer students) will report to school and be called down after announcements to pre-register.

- **March 12**: All Juniors will be given the ACT free of charge by the state of Ohio. Juniors will report to school, take the ACT, and then be released after testing for the remainder of the day.

- All other students will be on their regularly scheduled school day.
Ontario Local Schools
457 Shelby-Ontario Road
Ontario, Ohio 44906-1029

Pride for Community & Country

Proud to Serve Our Veterans... We thank our Lucky Stars for You

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