Principal Notes - OUUSD Meeting on **August 25, 2021**

Oxbow

Submitted by Jean Wheeler

**Parent and Student Information Forums** - 6:00 - 7:00 PM on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. Here is the Zoom Link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85131155469?pwd=YzE5T0hWdEVKRmpUKytQYlRnZEp2Zz09

**STUDENT LIFE:**

This summer Oxbow provided opportunities for students in need of credit recovery in June and also a summer camp for students in August.

**Oxbow’s Summer Programs**

This summer Oxbow provided opportunities for students in need of credit recovery in June and also a summer camp for students in August.

The credit recovery program is offered to students who failed a course with a 50% or better to finish that credit using the A+ program. Oxbow’s math teacher, Marsha Sutherland and case manager Amy McQuade worked with students to complete their required proficiencies in order to receive credit. This is similar to the program we ran in February for students. This summer 12 students participated in the week-long program.

The focus for camp was for students to re-engage with school, fellow students and faculty. We wanted students to want to come back to school, to establish a relationship with either another student in the building or a faculty member. To that end this was a very successful week for our campers.

We had a total of 41 campers throughout the week and averaged 37 a day for the week. Most campers were from the incoming 7th grade with a couple from each the eighth, ninth, and tenth grades attending. Camp counselors were Barry Emerson, Cassie Saikin, Dan Thomas, Leslie Lamoureux, and Andrew Chobanian. The week included soccer golf, canoe safety, first aid in the wilderness, trips to Wright's Mountain and Quechee Gorge, mini golf and ice cream. We heard many positive comments from both campers and parents.
The focus for summer camp was for students to re-engage with school, fellow students and faculty. We wanted students to want to come back to school, to establish a relationship with another student in the building and a faculty member. To that end this was a very successful week for our campers.

We had a total of 41 campers throughout the week and averaged 37 a day for the week. Most campers were from the incoming 7th grade with a couple from each the eighth, ninth, and tenth
grades attending. Camp counselors were Barry Emerson, Cassie Saikin, Dan Thomas, Leslie Lamoureux, and Andrew Chobanian. The week included soccer golf, canoe safety, first aid in the wilderness, team building and personal challenges, trips to Wright’s Mountain and Quechee Gorge, mini golf and ice cream. We heard many positive comments from both campers and parents.

In addition to the summer activities program, Oxbow offered a credit recovery program that provided students who failed a course with a 50% or better to finish that credit using the A+ program. Oxbow’s math teacher, Marsha Sutherland and case manager Amy McQuade worked with students to complete their required proficiencies in order to receive credit. This is similar to the program we ran in February for students. This summer 12 students participated in the week-long program.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Wozny

Thank you Robin Wozny and her crew for providing safe and healthy opportunities for our young people.

**Athletic Report August 2021**

Fall athletic registration is underway, and we are nearing the start of all high school sports seasons. Early registration has an anticipated increase in participation, and we hope this trend continues as we get more middle schoolers signed up for their season as they enter the school year. The football season began last night, with 25 students attending the first practice. This included a strong turn out of Oxbow students, as well as a few from the sending schools of Blue Mountain, Rivendell, and Thetford. The high school soccer and cross country seasons begin on Thursday, August 19th. All of the teams will get a few weeks of practice before the first official games begin on September 3rd. We plan to begin the middle school sports seasons on Monday, August 30th. We bring back most of our coaches from last year, and are still trying to lock down a middle school boys soccer coach.

Respectful,

Derek Cipriano

**FACILITIES Report**
Dear Oxbow Students and Parents,

Welcome back to school. We look forward to having you all in school 5-days a week when we begin classes on **Thursday, August 26, 2021** at 7:55 AM. We will begin the school year with a school-wide assembly in the gymnasium. Please plan to arrive between 7:30 - 7:50 in order to find your seats and attend the assembly.

Enclosed is the very important summer mailing - complete with registration paperwork that **MUST** be filled out, signed and returned on or before August 26, 2021. Failure to do so will result in a delay in Chromebook assignments and other school privileges. Please take the time to complete the Free and Reduced Meals Application - even if you are sure you will not qualify. This form allows Oxbow to draw down additional federal funds that support programs and offset the expense for the local tax payer. The information on the forms is kept confidential. Please call us at 222-5214 for assistance.

Here are a few tips to help you prepare for returning to school:

1. **www.oxbowhighschool.org** is where you will find information now, and throughout the school year. Please check our website for answers to your questions. This year we will be posting our morning announcements daily - hoping to keep you all aware of what is happening at Oxbow.

2. **Parent and Community Forums** - We will continue to hold forums every other Wednesday night, 6:00 - 7:00 PM. The first forum will be on Wednesday, August 18, 2021, at 6:00 PM. We will offer this forum in person - in the auditorium - and via Zoom. The Zoom link will be available on the Oxbow Webpage - **www.oxbowhighschool.org**.

3. **Advisory Groups** - Every student at Oxbow will assigned to an advisory group. This advisory group meets daily for 30 minutes. During this time, students will develop their personal learning plans, participate in class meetings, attend assemblies, and work on developing career and college readiness skills, and resilience and self-awareness.

4. **School meals** will be free for all students this school year. The cafeteria will still provide a la carte snacks - chips, ice cream - for cash **ONLY** this year. PLEASE FILL OUT THE APPLICATION FOR FREE AND REDUCED SCHOOL MEALS.
5. **COVID-19 Updates**: We will be following all State recommended guidelines around COVID-19. Until further notice, all students and staff will be required to wear masks - at bus stops, on buses, and while at school. We will be back full-time - 5 days a week.

6. **Schedules**: You can find your schedule on Infinite Campus. Be sure to check. If you need assistance, contact Ms. Smith at bernadette.smith@oesu.org or by calling 222-5214x139.

7. **Parking and Drop Off**: Students may begin to arrive on campus at 7:30 AM. All student parking and drop off will be in the front parking lot this year (like it was prior to COVID-19). Due to staff coverage, students will not be allowed to enter the building until 7:30 AM. Please plan accordingly.

8. **Chromebooks**: Each student will be provided with a Chromebook and one charger. Students and parents will be 100% responsible for lost or damaged Chromebooks and chargers.

9. **Cell Phones**: To avoid distraction in the classrooms, cell phones will be required to be turned off and stored out of sight during classes, study halls and advisory. They may be used during their lunch period only. First offense - warning and required to put the phone away; Second offense, or refusal to comply when asked to put it away - confiscated for the period/remainder of the day (depending on the situation); Third offense - confiscated and turned into Ms. Wozny, who will call parents to come pick it up.

10. **Dress Code**: The dress code has been rewritten to respect gender differences and our core values at Oxbow. Respect and safety are two of the most important values upon which the code was designed. Please refer to our Parent/Student Handbook 2021-2022 for further details. We do not believe the changes will require you to purchase new outfits - with the exception of warm clothes for winter months, safe shoes, and clothing free of offensive or distracting language or graphics.

Our theme - **WE ARE OXBOW** - and will guide us as we live out our mission as a family of empathetic, inquisitive, and socially responsible learners who positively impact our world. This mission contains a few very important words - empathetic, inquisitive, and socially responsible. What does it mean to be empathetic? To be **empathetic**, one must demonstrate the ability to understand and share the feelings of another. Another adverb, **inquisitive**, means you are curious and ask a lot of questions. A **socially responsible** individual is accountable for fulfilling their civic duty while their actions benefit the whole society.

So, welcome home to our school family. Continue to take on the social responsibility to help keep yourself and each other safe and healthy by staying home if you are sick,
washing your hands often, and keeping your distance when possible. Ask lots of questions and let your curiosity drive your learning. Always strive to be a better person by understanding others and believing that each person has the right to be different and special.

I look forward to a great school year. Be well and stay safe.

Ms. Wheeler and Ms. Wozny