



**Odessa Shannon Middle School**  
**11800 Monticello Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20902**  
**Phone: (240) 740-4150 FAX: (301) 649-2430**

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May 12, 2024

Dear Odessa Shannon Middle School Families,

We hope this message finds you well. As we embark on another week here at Odessa Shannon, we want to keep you informed about the latest school developments and important dates. Please review the events that are currently occurring at Odessa Shannon Middle School.

**Primary Election Day- No School**

This is a reminder that Tuesday, May 14, 2024 is the Primary Election Day and there is no school for students or staff. The students will return to school on Wednesday, May 15, 2024.

**MCAP Social Studies Testing for 8th Graders**

On Wednesday and Thursday, May 15th and 16th eighth grade students will take the MCAP Social Studies test in the morning. Please make sure that your child is well rested and on time both days. Make up testing will take place the following week. If you have any questions please contact, our testing coordinator, Ms. Kelly at [Erin\\_Kelly@mcpmsmd.org](mailto:Erin_Kelly@mcpmsmd.org).

**Individual MCAP Score Reports for the Spring 2023**

The Individual Score Report(s) for the Spring 2023 Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) English Language Arts and/or Math assessments have been mailed to households. In addition to the school reports, you will also receive a guide to assist you in understanding your child's score on the assessments. Please allow at least one week for delivery from receipt of this message. If you have any questions about your student's ELA and/or Math scores, please contact Ms. Kelly or Mr. Johnston at 240-740-4150.

**Eighth Grade End of the Year Information**

Parents of eighth grade students please read the linked information about the end of year events for 8th grade students. Remember that in order for the students to participate all financial obligations must be paid and behavioral expectations must be met.

[End of Year.ENG](#)

**Meet and Greet for Incoming Sixth Graders**

There will be a meet and greet for parents/students incoming to the sixth grade on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 in the cafeteria. Please read the attached flier for more information.

[Meet and Greet flier. bilingual](#)

**Summer School Registration**

Odessa Shannon MS students who will be in grades 6-8 are invited to participate in summer programs at Odessa Shannon MS. Students will enhance their English Language Arts and Mathematics skills and make real-world connections through hands-on experiences in Science and Social Studies electives. Transportation, breakfast, and lunch are provided. Registration will open on ParentVue starting **April 16, 2024**. If you are interested in your child attending summer school please complete the interest form [alternate Google Form](#) here. Please make sure you are registered for ParentVue to enroll your child. Below are helpful links to assist you.

[ELO flier](#)

[Tutorial for Registration. ENG](#)  
[Step by Step to register on ParentVue.ENG](#)  
[How to create a ParentVue account. ENG](#)

In partnership,  
**Dr. Natasha Booms**  
 Dr. Natasha Booms  
 Principal

**Odessa Shannon Middle School's Website:**  
<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/shannonms>

**Important Information for Parents/Guardians May 12, 2024**

Topic	Weekly Information
<p>MCPS Things to Know</p>	<p>Here are things to know this week. Read about the 2024 graduation schedule, upcoming free events from students and families, students named national merit scholarship recipients, a special surprise for three MCPS teachers this week, virtual events for Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and Jewish American Heritage Month, great news about students and staff and more!</p> <p><a href="#">Read message</a></p>
<p>Bus Safety</p>	<p><b>Reminder of Bus Safety</b>            This is a reminder that it is the job of our staff, students, bus operators, and families to ensure students safe travel to and from school. Parents and guardians can help further the safety of all students by making sure their children know the bus rules and etiquette that help ensure safe, orderly, and pleasant bus trips. Please review the bus safety guidelines with your child below:</p> <p><a href="#">Community Bus Letter. ENG</a></p>
<p>Student Service Learning (SSL) Hours</p>	<p>What are SSL Hours? Why are SSL Hours important? How do you check how many SSL hours you have? Do you need SSL Hours? Please read the SSL presentation below for more information and Student Service Learning Opportunities.</p> <p><a href="#">SSL Presentation</a></p>



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Remind Messages	<p>We are excited to share that MCPS is transitioning to the use of Remind to engage with its school communities! If you're not already familiar with <a href="#">Remind</a>, it's a communication tool that makes it easy to stay involved with your child's learning. Remind is free to use, and you'll be able to receive and send translated messages on any device - even a simple text message from your mobile phone!</p> <p><a href="#">Remind Information/Sign Up for Parents</a></p>
Student Metro Ride- On information	<p><a href="#">Metro Youth Cruiser Card Information</a>  <a href="#">Ride On User Guide English</a>  <a href="#">Ride On User Guide Spanish</a></p>
Beyond the Table Now	<p>Hot meals are available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday night at 5 pm at Parkland Middle School in Aspen Hill. Attached are flyers in English and Spanish (disregard the part about masks and social distancing)</p> <p><a href="#">Beyond the Table. ENG flier</a>  <a href="#">Beyond the Table.SPA flier</a></p>
Capital Area Food Bank	<p>The Capital Area Food Bank will be distributing food at Arcola ES every month. Please read the attached flier for the details and times of pick up.</p> <p><a href="#">Food Bank Information (bilingual)</a></p>
<b>Standing Items of Interest</b>	
Chromebooks	<p>Odessa Shannon will have Chromebook Carts with class sets of Chromebook available for student use in the classroom. For students who need a device to use at home, students, parents, and MCPS staff can fill out the <a href="#">Student Home Use Chromebook Request</a> form on behalf of the student. The student's information will be verified for take-home device eligibility, and then a Chromebook will be sent to the school to be checked out to the student. Students will not be required to transport home-use Chromebooks to and from school.</p>
Cell Phone/Electronics Policy	<p>OSMS follows the county's expectations for cell phone non-use during the school day. Students are allowed to have cell phones at OSMS; however, it is highly encouraged they stay at home. If a student brings a cell phone/electronics of any kind to school, they must be turned off and out of sight during the instructional day, this includes lunch time and in the halls. We suggest and highly encourage students to keep phones/electronics at home or in their own locker during the school day. <b>Please note that the school is NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST OR STOLEN ELECTRONIC</b></p>

	<p><b>EQUIPMENT</b> and a parent may have to pick up phones/electronics if they become an instructional distraction for the student.</p>
<p>Bell Times and School Attendance</p>	<p><a href="#">Bell Schedule</a></p> <p>Regular school attendance is required. Students are expected to report to school on time and be prepared each day. The school day is from 8:10am-3:00pm. If students are not able to attend classes, please email Ms. Johana Martinez, attendance secretary, at <a href="mailto:Johana_S_MartinezMartinez@mcpsmd.org">Johana_S_MartinezMartinez@mcpsmd.org</a>. Students should bring in a note upon their return to school regarding their absence to adjust their attendance correctly. A written explanation of each absence is required from the parent/guardian <b>within three days</b> of the student's return to school. You will receive an automated call whenever your student is out for <b>one period or the whole day</b>. Please check with your student before calling the school because the main office cannot verify if they were in class at that specific time frame.</p> <p>Students are not supervised in the building until 7:50 a.m., therefore students should not be dropped off before this time as it is a safety concern. <b>Students will remain outside until 7:50 a.m.</b> We will have a new student drop off area that is marked, please drop off students in the designated area only.</p> <p>Finally, to ensure that students receive the maximum instructional time, <b>students will not be called out of class for messages and parents should avoid conflicts that interfere with class attendance as much as possible.</b></p>
<p>ParentVUE Activation</p>	<p>Please take the time to register for ParentVUE. This school year, Synergy and ParentVUE will be the primary home-to-school communication vehicles for schools to share information regarding grades, attendance, scheduling, log into myMCPS Classroom, and more.</p> <p><a href="#">How to activate my ParentVUE account</a>  <a href="#">Cómo activar mi cuenta ParentVUE</a></p>
<p>myMCPS Classroom/Canvas</p>	<p>The myMCPS-Canvas platform will continue to be used for teaching and learning during the school year. Students will access their assignments, receive messages, and use this platform to turn in work as appropriate.</p> <p><i>*Parents/Guardians can access myMCPS Classroom via ParentVUE</i></p>
<p>Lockers</p>	<p>All students will be assigned a locker during the first week of school. Please note that backpacks and other bags need to fit within the locker space because students will not be allowed to carry bags to class. In many cases a luggage style bag with wheels and a pull handle will not fit, so please save your receipts in case a newly purchased bag needs to be returned.</p>
<p>Conflict Resolution Program at School</p>	<p>The Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County (CRCMC), is excited to offer a school based conflict resolution program this year. Staff and volunteers from the Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County will conduct this exciting program here at Odessa Shannon MS one day a week.</p>



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	<p>The purpose of this school-based conflict resolution program is to provide the students and staff of Odessa Shannon MS the opportunity to address and resolve student disputes with an “on-site” conflict resolution professional.</p> <p>The program will empower students to use the on-site Conflict Resolution Office to address and resolve disputes in constructive ways supporting a positive and safe learning environment. Additionally, students will practice restorative discipline principles that focus on: strengthening relationships, collaborative problem-solving, and student accountability.</p> <p>This on-site school-based Conflict Resolution Program will be housed in the counseling office. The office will be staffed by AmeriCorps and Volunteers with the Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County who will serve as a neutral person to accept concerns on behalf of students, teachers, and staff regarding student concerns. The position will be staffed by personnel from the Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County and will provide individual conferencing, community conferencing, and mediation. Please review, sign the letter below and return it to school if you do not wish for your child to participate in the program.</p> <p><a href="#">Conflict Resolution Opt Out letter</a> <a href="#">Carta para no participar en el programa de conflicto y resolución</a></p>
Sunday Message to the Community	During the school year we will send messages on Sunday evenings through ConnectEd about the upcoming events at OSMS and throughout the county. <b>Please make sure your information is up to date in ParentVue so you receive the emails.</b>