TIP OF THE SPEAR NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 2

Dear Parents,



We are off to a great start! Our students have quickly adjusted to routines and are actively engaged in learning.

As we move further into the school year, we encourage you to regularly check your student's grades through the Parent Portal. Staying informed helps ensure students remain on track and allows for quick communication if questions or concerns arise. Your support at home plays a vital role in your student's success, and we truly appreciate your partnership.

If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to complete the Free and Reduced Lunch Application. Remember, a new form is required each year.

Ms. Williams

Stopfinder

The Stopfinder app gives parents and guardians easy access to important student transportation information, including real-time bus locations and estimated arrival times in one convenient location.

***Guardians will need a Focus Parent Portal account to participate.**

https://www.okaloosaschools.com/page/focus-parents



UPCOMING EVENTS

September

Sept 7 Labor Day
Sept 10 School Pictures
Sept 11 Patriot Day-Wear red, white, & blue
Sept 15 ELL Parent Night
Sept 17 Constitution Day

October

Oct 2 National Custodial Worker's Day
Oct 9 End of Q1
Oct 12 Teacher Work Day
Oct 15 SAC Meeting @ 3:30
Oct 16 Resiliency/Discipline Meetings
Oct 21 Unity Day (Wear Orange)
Oct 22 Picture Retakes
Oct 26-30 Red Ribbon Week (Spirit Week)
Oct 30 Beta Halloween Dance

School Spirit Shirt Update

Students picked up their free Bruner spiritwear shirts last week! As a reminder, Bruner spiritwear is required Monday–Thursday as part of our school dress code. Please make sure students come to school each day in their approved Bruner spiritwear and follow all dress code expectations. Thank you for help!



SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Are you looking to get more involved at Bruner? We'd love for you to join us and learn how you can support Bruner's continued success through our School Advisory Council. SAC is a team made up of parents, teachers, students, administrators, support staff, and community partners. Together, we work to improve our school by reviewing data, identifying areas for growth, and providing input on school programs and initiatives.

2026-2027 SAC Meeting Dates

Aug 20th @ 3:30 pm
Oct. 15th @ 3:30 pm
November 12th @ 3:30 pm
February 4th @ 3:30 pm
March 4th @ 3:30 pm
April 1st @ 3:30 pm

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Meet our Counselors

Ms. Leeth, our school counselor, is here to support our students with academics, scheduling, social-emotional needs, and other concerns that may impact their success at school. She also serves as our 504, English Language Learner (ELL), and Title IV contact, helping families access accommodations, resources, and additional support.

Ms. Collazo, our mental health counselor, provides additional support for students experiencing emotional or mental health concerns, including stress, anxiety, grief, and other challenges that may affect their well-being and success at school.

If you have questions or are unsure who to contact, please reach out to the school. We are happy to connect you with the right person and make sure you and your student have the support you need!



Left to right: Ms. Collazo and Ms. Leeth



September Resiliency Topic: Citizenship

This month, students are learning what it means to be a good citizen, by showing respect, kindness, responsibility, and helping others. Every student has the power to make a positive difference!
When we practice these traits, we help create a school community where everyone feels safe, included, and empowered.
We also want every student to know they can make a positive difference in their classroom, school, and beyond.
When we talk about resiliency and citizenship, we proudly think of our military families and the many ways they contribute to our school and our nation.

8TH GRADE TRIP-PARENT MEETING



SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING



American Founder's Month

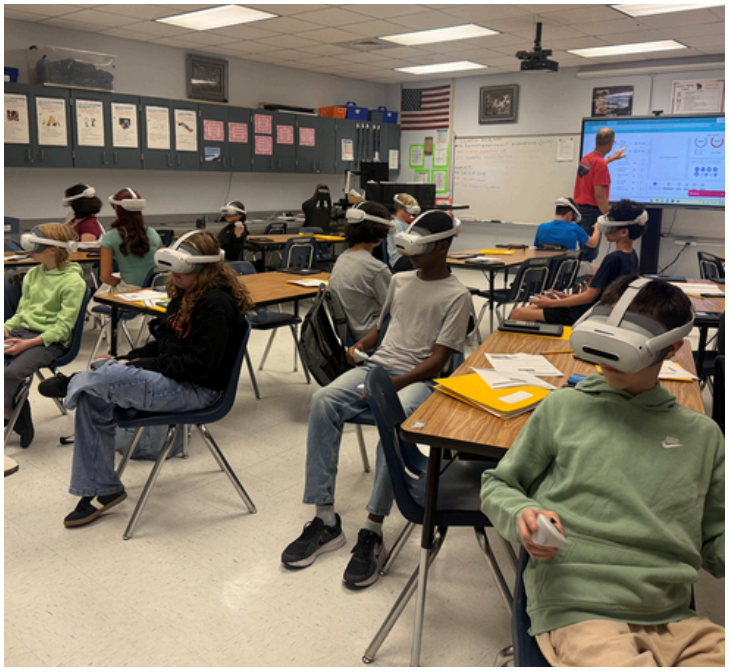
During the month of September, Bruner will celebrate America's Founding Fathers through lessons and activities that highlight the principles of freedom, democracy, and civic responsibility.

In honor of Patriot Day, we will take time during homeroom classes to discuss the significance of the events of September 11, 2001, and reflect on the resilience and unity that followed. We encourage everyone to wear red, white, and blue as a tribute to the lives lost and in remembrance of the heroes who demonstrated courage and sacrifice on that day.

September 17 is Constitution Day, a day in which we commemorate the signing of the U.S. Constitution 238 years ago. Students will learn about the Constitution's role in shaping our government, protecting our freedoms, and ensuring the rights we continue to enjoy today. Activities and discussions will focus on why the Constitution remains one of the most important documents in our nation's history.

SPARTAN LIFE















STAY CONNECTED



Stay Connected with OCSD This School Year!

We're excited to offer families a better way to stay connected with teachers, schools, and the District through the OCSD app and Rooms communication platform. Don't miss important messages, updates, and announcements throughout the school year.

✅ Download the OCSD app and log in today using the email address or cell phone number listed in Focus.

To ensure you receive all communications, please verify that each guardian has a unique email address and cell phone number on file in Focus for each child. If your contact information needs updating, contact your school's registrar for assistance.

No app? No problem! As long as your contact information in Focus is current, you'll continue to receive notifications by text message and/or email.

FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE

Football

Aug 20	Away v Ruckel/Destin	6:30
Aug 26	Away v Ruckel	6:30
Sept 3	Away v Pryor	6:30
Sept 17	Home v Shoal River	6:30
Sept 24	Away v Meigs	6:30
Oct 1	Home v Davidson	6:30
Oct 8	Home v Destin	6:30
Oct 15	Semi-Finals	6:30
Oct 21	Finals	6:30

Cross Country

Sept 9	Home v Pryor/Meigs	4:30
Sept 16	Home v Destin/Liza	4:30
Sept 23	Away v Pnvw, DMS, Liza @ Pnvw	5:30
Sept 30	Away v St. Mary's/DMS @ St Marys	4:30
Oct 7	Away v Shoal Ruckel @ NHS	5:00
Oct 14	Semi-Finals/Finals TBD	5:00



Volleyball

Aug 24	Away v Liza	5:00
Aug 26	Away v Destin	5:00
Aug 31	Home v Ruckel	5:00
Sept 2	Home v Pryor	5:00
Sept 9	Away v Shoal	5:00
Sept 14	Home v St. Marys	5:00
Sept 16	Away v Ruckel	5:00
Sept 21	Home v Ruckel	5:00
Sept 23	Away v Pryor	5:00
Sept 28	Home v Pineview	5:00
Sept 30	Away v Meigs	5:00
Oct 5	Home v Liza	5:00
Oct 13	Home v Destin	5:00
Oct 14	Away v Davidson	5:00
Oct 19	Semi-finals	5:00
Oct 21	Finals	5:00

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Cell Phone Policy

In accordance with Florida law, students in Kindergarten through 8th grade are prohibited from using cell phones and other electronic communication devices during the school day.



All devices must be turned off and stored out of sight. Students are encouraged to keep their phones in their backpacks or lockers.

If a student needs to contact a parent, they may use the phone in the front office. Parents may also call the school to have a message delivered to their child.

Spartan Spirit Wear

Students are required to wear an official Bruner shirt or sweatshirt Monday through Thursday. The Bruner design must be visible at all times while indoors. Official spirit wear can be purchased in the front office, during approved school fundraisers, or online at http://www.ddbapparel.com/brunerspartans.

Spirit wear shirts must remain unaltered in style (e.g., no cutting, tying, knotting, marking, or excessive damage). While inside the building, students may wear an open zip-up, button-up, or snap-front jacket, as long as an official Bruner shirt, sweatshirt, or hoodie is clearly visible.

On Fridays, students may participate in Free Friday, allowing them to wear clothing that is not Bruner attire; however, all clothing must still adhere to the school dress code policy.

FREE OR REDUCED MEALS



Okaloosa County School District Encourages All Families to Apply for Free or Reduced School Meals for the 2026-27 School Year.

We invite ALL families to apply for Free or Reduced School Meals by visiting www.myschoolapps.com. Even if your family was approved for Free or Reduced meals last year, you must reapply for the 2026-27 school year.

Why should ALL families apply, even if you think you might not be eligible? Because you might be surprised—many families qualify without realizing it!

Students approved for Free or Reduced Meals will benefit from:

- **Nutritious meals provided free or at a reduced cost**
- **Discounted SAT, ACT, and AP Exam fees**
- **Reduced fees on college entrance exams**

This program also supports the broader community by:

- **Determining school funding**
- **Securing discounted internet and technology services**
- **Establishing eligibility for grants**

For more information, please visit www.myschoolapps.com for details in both English and Spanish.

SCHOOLCASH ONLINE

Okaloosa County School District's Preferred Method of Payment for School Items and Activity Fees



PAY SCHOOL FEES ONLINE!

Our School District uses SchoolCash Online for a simple way to pay for school items and activity fees:

- Receive email notifications of new fees or items available for purchase, including field trips, yearbooks, spirit wear, athletic fees, and more.
- Pay for school fees anytime, anywhere, with a simple click.
- Keep track of all school items and activity fees and manage all students in your household from one location.

Register now to be ready to make online payments from home, both now and in the future as additional school items become available.

SAFE.
SIMPLE.
SECURE.

REGISTER NOW

KEV SCHOOL SOLUTIONS

WWW.OKALOOSASCHOOLS.SCHOOLCASHONLINE.COM

School Lunch payments will continue to be made through My School Bucks, and Child Care payments will be made through Tuition Express.