Orion Community Unit School District #223

The Charger

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2026



IN THIS ISSSUE:

- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- OMS Inaugural Softball Season
- FAFSA

Volume 55, Issue 2

District News!





If school is delayed or cancelled, staff and parents of our students will be notified via the district's automated notification system. School cancellations and delays will also be prominently listed on the main page of the District's website. This list of TV stations will also be notified in case of school cancellations and delays. Each station is responsible for the manner in which and speed that they are able to relay the information on to their listeners and viewers. It is our intent to release accurate information as quickly as possible.

WHBF-TV Channel 4
KWQC-TV Channel 6
WQAD-TV Channel 8
KGCW-TV "The Quad Cities CW"
KLJB-TV Fox 18

NO SCHOOL

October 23, 2026

ELECTION DAY
November 3, 2026

VETERANS DAY
November 11, 2026

THANKSGIVING BREAK
November 25-27, 2026



Cover Photo:
OHS Varsity Volleyball photo taken by Kenadie Whitcomb, OHS Sophomore. Follow her on Facebook at Kenadie's Photography.

Great work, Kenadie!

"GROWING COMPETITIVE GREATNESS"

(THE ABILITY TO BE YOUR BEST, WHEN YOUR BEST IS NEEDED.)



ASBESTOS

IN 1978, AIR QUALITY TESTING, INC., OF MOLINE, IL CONDUCTED INSPECTIONS OF ALL DISTRICT #223 BUILDINGS FOR ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS (ACM) AND WROTE AN ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR EACH OF THE BUILDINGS WHERE ACM WERE FOUND. ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS WERE FOUND IN EACH OF THE BUILDINGS IN VARYING AMOUNTS. IN 1990, ALMOST ALL OF THIS ACM WAS REMOVED. C. R. HANNA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STILL HAS FLOOR TILE CONTAINING ASBESTOS. THIS TILE IS NON FRIABLE AND HAS LITTLE POTENTIAL FOR CONTACT DAMAGE. AS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS, ALL BUILDINGS UNDERWENT A RE-INSPECTION IN MAY 2020 BY AN ILLINOIS LICENSED ASBESTOS INSPECTOR. NO NEW ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS WERE FOUND. TO MAINTAIN THE SAFEST POSSIBLE CONDITIONS FOR OUR CHILDREN, SURVEILLANCE OF ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS IS CONDUCTED CONTINUALLY AND DOCUMENTED EVERY SIXTH MONTH TO DETERMINE IF ANY OF THE ACM HAS BEEN DAMAGED OR HAS DETERIORATED. ALL ASBESTOS INSPECTION REPORTS AND MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR ORION COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #223 HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH. THE ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN AND PROJECT MANAGERS REPORT (REPORTS ON REMOVAL) FOR EACH BUILDING ARE AVAILABLE FOR EXAMINATION IN THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL OF RESPECTIVE BUILDINGS AND AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, 1002-11TH AVENUE, ORION.

Orion Christmas For Kids

Christmas for Kids is available to any family in the Orion School District who is in need. There are no financial forms to fill out and all information is strictly confidential. Children from age birth to 18 years old are eligible. Please register at:

Where: Orion Village Hall
When: October 6
October 20



For more information please call
Kenis Johnson 737-8439
Sherri Hamilton 314-8285



Special Education

The Orion School District offers a variety of services for students with special needs. Students experiencing difficulty achieving success in the classroom due to learning disabilities, behavioral disorders, speech deficiencies, or other social/emotional problems can receive assistance through the special education program. These services can range from consultation with the student and/or parent to instruction in special education classrooms.

Appropriate placement is determined jointly by the student, parents, and district personnel only after a complete assessment of the student has been done.

Additional specialized services are available through Black Hawk Area Special Education District. Anyone interested in accessing these services should contact the school office for further information

Nurse's Corner



FIGHT GERMS BY WASHING YOUR HANDS!

STEP 1 Wet your hands

STEP 2 Soap

STEP 3 Lather and scrub for 20 seconds

STEP 4 Rinse for 10 seconds

STEP 5 Turn off tap

STEP 6 Dry your hands

Don't forget to wash:

Between your fingers
Under your nails
The tops of your hands

The first dental bus of the year was a success. The next one is scheduled for March 22, 2027. This date allows anyone who utilized the September bus to be eligible again. However, if you didn't use the September bus, you can use it this time. More information will be coming as it gets closer.

Parents,

If your child goes home ill, they should not be attending events that same day. Flu, strep, colds, all are caused by germs and are contagious. Uncovered coughs, as well, spread germs 10-15 feet, by droplets, like an aerosol spray.

Also, if you give your child medication for pain, cold, or headache, PLEASE give them age-appropriate medication. Too much may cause liver problems or other problems as well. With the current ongoing situation, they may need to stay home.

Cold weather will be here before we know it. Please have your student dress for the weather! Also, the schools tend to be a little chilly so make sure they have a jacket or sweatshirt they can put on. Please have CRH students label their clothing. We get too many items unclaimed. Just a reminder: What the students wear to school is what they go to recess in. We do not have coats to borrow. If you need assistance for winter outerwear, please contact the nurse's office.

Remember the food pantry and Charger Closet can help those who need assistance (job loss, health issues, loss of income, just to name a few). The pantry is at Orion Village Hall, lower level, the first and third Tuesday of each month from 4:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. The Charger Closet is located at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Their hours are the same as the food pantry.

We are still looking for some kindergarten, 2nd, 6th, and 9th grade dentals and kindergarten vision exams.

Please avoid close contact with people who are sick. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces. Stay home when you are sick except to get medical care. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

We would like to thank all the parents and students for their cooperation. We are all in this together.

Stay healthy!!

Mrs. Dean

TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?

HERE'S HOW TO TELL



STAY HOME IF ...	SYMPTOM	GO BACK TO SCHOOL AFTER ...
Your child feels too sick for regular activities	← COUGH AND OTHER COLD SYMPTOMS →	Fever decreases and your child feels better
Yellow or green pus appears	← EYE DISCHARGE →	The amount of pus decreases, using antibiotic eye drops for 24 hours
The temperature on an oral thermometer reads 100° F or higher (100.4 for an ear, rectal, or forehead temp)	← FEVER →	Body temperature reaches normal
You suspect flu—it spreads rapidly	← FLU →	Fever has been gone for 24 hours
Your child has a migraine—throbbing, severe pain with moodiness, fatigue, and sensitivity to light	← HEADACHE →	Taking pain medication
Redness and itchiness affect all or most of your child's body	← RASH →	The rash is gone—or the doctor gives the OK
Your doctor suspects—or diagnoses—strep throat	← SORE THROAT →	24 hours after beginning antibiotics
Your child is vomiting or has uncontrollable diarrhea	← STOMACHACHE →	Vomiting stops and your child has control of bathroom breaks



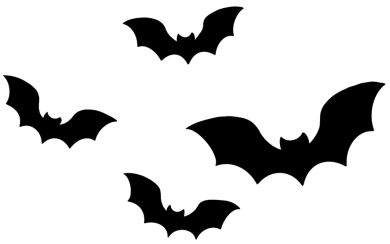
UPCOMING EVENTS OCTOBER



Thursday	10/1	DISTRICT	5:00	OHS Homecoming Parade
		DISTRICT	5:30	OHS Homecoming Dinner
		OHS	6:00	HSBS TRAC Conference Tournament - Monmouth-Roseville
		DISTRICT	6:30	OHS Homecoming Pep Assembly
Friday	10/2	OHS	7:00	HSFB (V) Rockridge - H (Homecoming)
Saturday	10/3	OHS	8:00	HSVB (V) Orion Charger Challenge - H
		OHS	10:00	HSCC Augustana College Invite - Saukie Golf Course
		OHS	7:00	OHS Homecoming Dance
Monday - Monday	10/5 - 10/12	OHS		No ACC Classes - Fall Intersession
Monday	10/5	OHS	TBA	HSBG IHSA 1A Sectionals - PrairieView Golf Club, Byron
		OHS	TBA	HSGG IHSA 1A Sectionals - Valley View Club, Cambridge
		OMS	5:00	MSGBB Alwood - A
		OHS	4:45	HSBS (V) Sterling - A
		OHS	5:30	HSFB (Soph) Rockridge - A
Tuesday	10/6	OHS	4:45	HSCC Panther Invite - Lake Erie Country Club
		OHS	5:00	HSVB Monmouth-Roseville - H (Senior Night)
		OMS	5:30	MSGBB Cambridge - H
		OMS	5:30	MSFB Monmouth-Roseville - A
Wednesday	10/7	OHS	4:30	HSBS (V) IVCC - H
		OMS/OHS	7:00	OMS & OHS Fall Choir Concert - OHS
Thursday	10/8	OMS	5:30	MSGBB United - H
Friday	10/9	OHS	TBA	HSBG IHSA 1A State Finals - Prairie Vista Golf Course, Bloomington
		OHS	TBA	HSGG IHSA 1A State Finals - Red Tail Run Golf Course, Decatur
		OHS	7:00	HSFB (V) Mercer County - A
Saturday	10/10	OHS	8:00	HSBS (JV) Princeton Invitational - Little Siberia Field
		OHS	8:00	HSVB (V) United Invite - A
		OMS	10:00	MSCC IESA 2A Sectionals - Highland Community College, Freeport
Monday	10/12	OHS	10:00	HSCC Amboy Columbus Day Invite - Shady Oaks Country Club
		OMS	4:30	HSBS (V) Galesburg - A
		OMS	4:45	MSCC Camden Park - A
		OHS	5:00	HSVB Tremont - H
		OHS	5:30	HSFB (Soph) Mercer County - H
Tuesday	10/13	OHS	5:00	HSVB Rockridge - A
		OMS	5:30	MSFB Central - H
		OMS	5:30	MSGBB Mercer County - H
Wednesday	10/14	OHS	TBA	OHS Juniors - PSAT/NMSQT Testing
		OMS	5:30	MSGBB Sherrard - A
Thursday	10/15	OHS	2:40	Herff Jones Graduation Meeting
		OHS	5:00	HSVB Riverdale - H
Friday	10/16	OHS	TBA	HSBS IHSA 2A Regionals - H
		OHS	7:00	HSFB (V) Monmouth-Roseville - A



UPCOMING EVENTS OCTOBER



Saturday	10/17	OHS	TBA	HSBS IHSA 2A Regionals - H
		OMS	10:00	MSFB Knoxville - A
		OMS	10:00	MSCC IESA 2A State - Maxwell Park, Normal
		OHS	1:00	HSCC Patriot Invitational - Detweiller Park, Peoria
Monday - Thursday	10/19 - 10/22	CRH		CRH Book Fair
Monday	10/19	OMS		MSBBB Practice Begins
		OMS	5:30	MSGBB Monmouth Roseville - H
		OHS	5:30	HSFB (Soph) - Monmouth-Roseville - H
Tuesday	10/20	OHS	TBA	HSBS IHSA 2A Regionals - H
		OHS	5:00	HSVB Mercer County - H
Wednesday	10/21	DISTRICT		**Early Dismissal: CRH-1:33 p.m., OMS - 1:39 p.m., OHS - 1:45 p.m.**
		DISTRICT		Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:00 - 7:30 p.m.
		OMS	5:30	MSGBB Central - A
Thursday	10/22	DISTRICT		**Early Dismissal: CRH-1:33 p.m., OMS - 1:39 p.m., OHS - 1:45 p.m.**
		DISTRICT	3:00	Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:00 - 7:30 p.m.
		OHS	5:00	HSVB Rock Island - A
		OMS	5:30	MSBGG Knoxville - A
Friday	10/23	DISTRICT		**No School/No ACC Classes**
Friday/Saturday	10/23 - 10/24	OHS	TBA	HSFB (V) - IHSA 1A Playoffs - Round 1
Saturday	10/24	OHS	TBA	HSCC IHSA 1A Regionals - TBA
		OHS	TBA	HSBS IHSA 2A Regionals - H
Monday	10/26	OMS	5:30	MSGBB Galesburg - H
Monday - Wednesday	10/26 - 10/28	OHS	TBA	HSBS IHSA 2A Sectionals - TBA
		OHS	TBA	HSVB IHSA 1A Regionals - TBA
Tuesday	10/27	OHS	11:20	Herff Jones Graduation Order Day
		OHS	TBA	HSVB IHSA 1A Regionals
Wednesday	10/28	OHS	TBA	HSVB IHSA 1A Regionals
		OMS	OMS	MSGBB Rockridge - A
Thursday	10/29	OMS	5:30	MSGBB Annawan - H
		OHS	TBA	HSVB IHSA 1A Regionals
Friday	10/30	DISTRICT		**Early Dismissal: CRH - 1:33 p.m., OMS - 1:39 p.m., OHS - 1:45 p.m.**
		CRH		CRH Classroom Halloween Parties
Friday/Saturday	10/30 - 10/31	OHS	TBA	HSFB (V) - IHSA 1A Playoffs - Round 2
		OHS	TBA	HSBS IHSA 2A Sectionals - TBA
Saturday	10/31	OHS	TBD	HSCC IHSA 1A Sectionals - TBD



UPCOMING EVENTS NOVEMBER



Monday	11/2	OHS		HSGBB Practice Begins
		OMS	5:30	MSGBB Mercer County - A
Tuesday	11/3	DISTRICT		**No School - Election Day**
		OMS	5:30	MSBBB Wethersfield - A
Tuesday - Thursday	11/3 - 11/5	OHS	TBD	HSVB IHSA 1A Sectionals - Wethersfield
Wednesday	11/4	OMS	5:30	MSGBB Sherrard - H
Thursday	11/5	OMS	5:30	MSGBB Monmouth-Roseville - A
Saturday	11/7	OHS	TBA	HS Robotics
		OHS	TBA	HSCC IHSA 1A State - Detweiller Park, Peoria
Monday	11/9	OHS		HSBBB & HSWR Practice Begins
		OHS	TBA	HSVB IHSA 1A Supersectionals - Brimfield
		OMS	5:30	MSGBB Central - H
Wednesday	11/11	DISTRICT		**No School - Veterans' Day**
Thursday	11/12	OMS	5:30	MSGBB Knoxville - H
		OMS	5:30	MSBBB United - A
		OHS	6:30	OHS Fall Play Parent Performance
Friday	11/13	OHS	7:00	OHS Fall Play
Saturday	11/14	OMS	10:00	MSGBB Brimfield - H
		OHS	7:00	OHS Fall Play
Sunday	11/15	OHS	2:00	OHS Fall Play
Monday	11/16	OMS	5:30	MSBBB Central - A
Monday - Saturday	11/16 - 11/21	OHS	TBA	HSGBB Ridgewood Thanksgiving Tournament - Alwood or ROWVA
Wednesday	11/18	CRH		Author Eric Rohmann visit - CRH
		OMS	5:30	MSGBB Rockridge - H
		OMS	5:30	MSBBB Rockridge - A
Thursday	11/19	OMS	5:30	MSBBB Cambridge - H
Saturday	11/21	OMS	TBA	MSGBB (7th) IESA 3A Regionals - TBA
Monday	11/23	OMS	TBA	MSGBB (7th) IESA 3A Regionals - TBA
		OMS	5:30	MSBBB Sherrard - A
		OHS	5:30	HSBBB (Soph) 10&32 Orion Tip Off Classic - OMS
		OHS	5:30	HSBBB (V) 10&32 Orion Tip Off Classic - OHS
Tuesday	11/24	DISTRICT		**Early Dismissal: CRH - 11:22 a.m., OMS - 11:28 a.m., OHS - 11:32 a.m.**
		CRH	10:30	Kindergarten Thanksgiving Program - OHS
	11/24	OHS	5:30	HSBBB (Soph) 10&32 Orion Tip Off Classic - OMS
		OHS	5:30	HSBBB (V) 10&32 Orion Tip Off Classic - OHS
		OHS	6:00	HSWR Macomb Thanksgiving Wrestling Extravaganza - A
Wednesday	11/25	DISTRICT		**No School - Thanksgiving Break**
		OMS	TBA	MSGBB (7th) IESA 3A Regionals - TBA
		OHS	5:30	HSBBB (V) 10&32 Orion Tip Off Classic - OHS
		OHS	6:00	HSGBB (V) Galva - A



UPCOMING EVENTS NOVEMBER



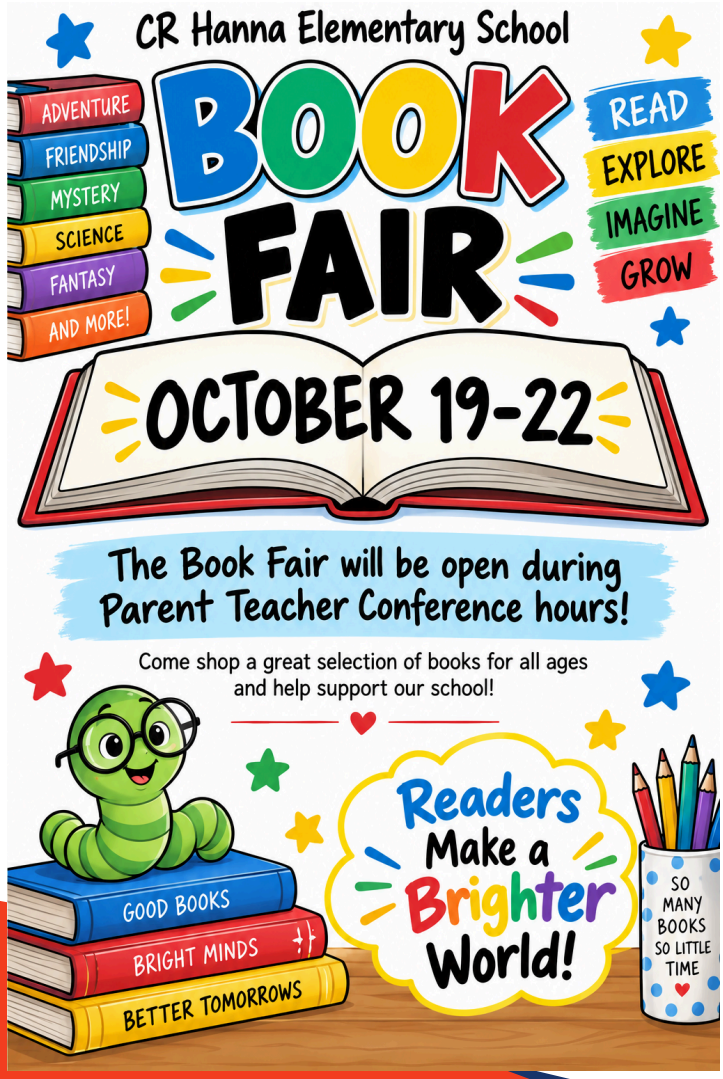
Thursday	11/26	DISTRICT		**No School - Thanksgiving Break**
Friday	11/27	DISTRICT		**No School - Thanksgiving Break**
		OHS	8:00	HSBBB (Soph) 10&32 Orion Tip Off Classic - OHS
		OHS	3:00	HSBBB (V) 10&32 Orion Tip Off Classic - OHS
Saturday	11/28	OHS	8:00	HSBBB (Soph) 10&32 Orion Tip Off Classic - OHS
		OHS	3:00	HSBBB (V) 10&32 Orion Tip Off Classic - OHS
Monday	11/30	OMS		MSWR Practice Begins
		OMS	TBA	MSGBB (8th) IESA 3A Regionals - TBA
		OMS	5:30	MSBBB Mercer County - A

CR HANNA





Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, and Thursday, October 22, 2026, from 3:00-7:30 p.m. Conferences will be scheduled online. Please visit our school website for sign-up information and instructions.







CR Hanna Elementary School is excited to welcome

ERIC ROHMANN

Powerful Stories. Unforgettable Illustrations. A Lasting Impact!

Award-Winning Author & Illustrator



SCHOOL VISIT

Wednesday, November 18, 2026

Eric Rohmann will be visiting CR Hanna Elementary School to share his books, artwork, and love of reading with our students!

PUBLIC EVENT

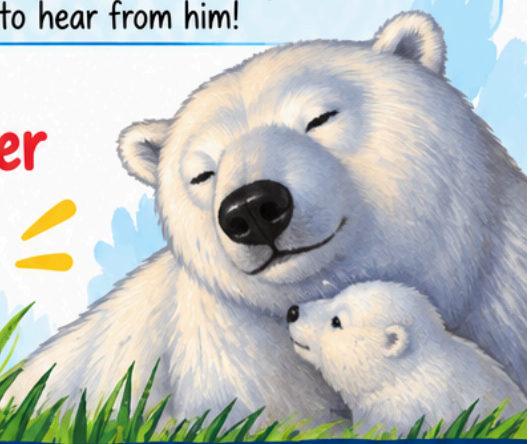
Wednesday, November 18, 2026 (Evening)

WESTERN DISTRICT LIBRARY
EXPLORE · LEARN · BELONG

Eric Rohmann will also be at the Western District Library for a public event that evening. This is a wonderful opportunity for families and community members to hear from him!



Great Books Build Brighter Futures!



READ · EXPLORE · IMAGINE · DISCOVER · BELONG



CR HANNA – OCTOBER MENU



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 Walking Taco Lettuce & Cheese Salsa Refried Beans Peaches	**2** BBQ Pulled Pork on Bun Baked Beans Pineapple
5 Turkey Deli Dragon Punch Orange Cheez-Its	**6** Chicken Strips Waffle with Syrup Green Beans Strawberries	**7** Pizza Max Quesadilla Salsa Corn Applesauce	**8** Popcorn Shrimp Garlic Toast Salad with Ranch Pears	**9** Crispitos Cheese Sauce Fritos Cooked Carrots Apple Juice
12 Mini Corn Dogs Green Beans Grape Flavored Raisins	**13** Bacon Breakfast Pizza Wango Mango Juice Peaches	**14** ***LUCKY TRAY DAY*** Garlic Cheese Pull Aparts Marinara Salad with Ranch Tropical Fruit	**15** Sloppy Joe on Bun Mixed Vegetables Strawberry Jello with Peaches	**16** Breaded Chicken Sandwich Baked Beans Apple
19 Grilled Cheese Celery with Peanut Butter Cherry Lemon Sidekick	**20** Confetti Mini Pancakes Syrup Trix Yogurt Taters Pineapple	**21** Pizza Hut Cheese Pizza Carrots with Ranch Pears Vanilla Ice Cream	**22** Strawberry PB&J Uncrustable Cheese Stick Carrots with Ranch Apple Slices	**23** **No School**
26 Hamburger on Bun Green Beans Mixed Fruit	**27** Pancake Chicken Sandwich Vegetable Blend Sidekick Blueberries	**28** Cheese French Bread Pizza Marinara Salad Mandarin Oranges	**29** Macho Nachos Refried Beans Applesauce	**30** Pretzel Mummy Dog Carrots with Ranch Orange Sidekick

*Lunch Prices: Student $3.50 (includes milk), Reduced price $.40, Adult $4.75

À la carte Options: Milk $.50

** Menu subject to change due to availability

CR HANNA NOVEMBER Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Breaded Chicken Sandwich on Bun Corn Apple Juice Fruit Snacks	**3** **No School - Election Day**	**4** Sausage Pizza Cooked Carrots Peaches	**5** BBQ Riblet on Bun Baked Beans Pears Cookie	**6** Chicken Quesadilla Green Beans Flavored Applesauce
9 Corn Dog Dragon Punch Juice Box Raisins Chips	**10** Sloppy Joe on Bun Taters Apple Slices	**11** **No School - Veterans' Day**	**12** Walking Taco Refried Beans Pineapple	**13** Cheeseburger on Bun Mixed Vegetables Lemon Raspberry Sidekick
16 Hot Dog on Bun Baked Beans Applesauce Cookie	**17** Chicken Nuggets Corn Mandarin Oranges	**18** Cheese Pizza Salad with Ranch Mixed Fruit	**19** Turkey with Gravy over Mashed Potatoes Pumpkin Bread Peaches	**20** Mini Pancakes Syrup Sausage Patty Wango Mango Juice Box Pears
23 Grape PB&J Uncrustable Cheese Stick Carrots with Ranch Raisins	**24** **Early Dismissal - No Lunch Served**	**25** **No School - Thanksgiving Break**	**26** **No School - Thanksgiving Break**	**27** **No School - Thanksgiving Break**
30 Hamburger on Bun Green Beans Tropical Fruit				

*Lunch Prices: Student $3.50 (includes milk), Reduced price $.40, Adult $4.75
À la carte Options: Milk $.50
** Menu subject to change due to availability

ONLINE GRADES:
PLEASE CHECK YOUR STUDENT'S GRADES REGULARLY
AT: WWW.TEACHEREASE.COM

Caught Leading at OMS!

We are excited to recognize our **August Charger Leaders**!
These students were nominated by our teachers and staff for going above and beyond and showing what it means to be an amazing human at Orion Middle School. Throughout the month, they were caught leading by demonstrating our three OMS Expectations:
❤️ Be Ready
🤍 Be Respectful
🖤 Be Responsible
These students are setting a great example for their peers and helping make OMS a place where everyone can learn, grow, and feel supported. We are so proud of the positive impact they are making in our school!



Grade level web pages

Wondering what your child has for homework, when a project is due, or when is the next upcoming assessment? Please check out the OMS Grade Level Web Pages where teachers update this information to help parents stay in the know. To access the pages, go to orionschools.us. Click on 'Orion Middle School.' Under 'Parent Links' you will find direct links to each grade level web page.

OMS SOFTBALL

Congratulations to the 2026 OMS Softball team on a historic inaugural season! The team made their mark by making it to State and finishing in the Elite 8 for 2A softball. It has been 25 years since an Orion softball team has made an appearance in the state tournament. Way to go - we are so proud of you!







OMS

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

CONFERENCES WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 21ST AND 22ND

OCTOBER 21
EARLY DISMISSAL (CRH 1:33PM, OMS 1:39PM, OHS 1:45PM)
PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES (3:00PM - 7:30PM)

OCTOBER 22
EARLY DISMISSAL (CRH 1:33PM, OMS 1:39PM, OHS 1:45PM)
PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES (3:00PM - 7:30PM)

OCTOBER 23
NO SCHOOL

BEGINNING OCTOBER 5TH, PLEASE CONTACT THE OMS OFFICE AT (309)526-3392 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SCHEDULE A CONFERENCE.

BEING INVOLVED

PLEASE CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO GET INVOLVED IN ACTIVITIES OFFERED TO OUR OMS STUDENTS. CREATING A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE WILL HELP OUR STUDENTS' ENTHUSIASM GROW.

OMS WINTER ACTIVITIES

WRESTLING (5 - 8)
CHEERLEADING (6 - 8)
BOYS BASKETBALL (7 - 8)
VOLLEYBALL (7 - 8)
CHESS (6 - 8)



THE ORION MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOLASTIC BOWL TEAMS ARE SELLING RAISE RIGHT GIFT CARDS TO HELP EARN MONEY FOR TEAM SHIRTS AND EQUIPMENT. THE SCHOLASTIC BOWL TEAM RECEIVES A PERCENTAGE OF ALL GIFT CARD SALES. PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THE SCHOLASTIC BOWL TEAM BY ORDERING YOUR HOLIDAY GIFT CARDS. ALL ORDERS AND PAYMENTS ARE DUE BY 3:00 PM, NOVEMBER 10TH, 2026. GIFT CARD ORDERS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BEFORE THANKSGIVING BREAK. ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT ANNA CASEY AT OMS, ACASEY@ORIONSCHOOLS.US.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Family Order Form

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Orion Middle School Scholastic Bowl

OMS Scholastic Bowl fundraiser. Orders Due by 3 p.m. November 10, 2026, this allows gift card distribution in November. Please make checks payable to Orion Middle School. Any questions, contact Myka Walljasper or Anna Casey 309-526-3392.

Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Product	%	QTY	Total
Amazon $100.00	1.25%		$
Amazon $25.00	1.25%		$
American Eagle $25.00	10%		$
Apple Store/Apple.com $15.00	5%		$
Apple Store/Apple.com $25.00	5%		$
Applebee's® $25.00	8%		$
Arby's $10.00	8%		$
Athleta $25.00	14%		$
Auntie Anne's $25.00	7%		$
Barnes & Noble $10.00	8%		$
Barnes & Noble $25.00	8%		$
Bath & Body Works $10.00	12%		$
Bath & Body Works $25.00	12%		$
BP $50.00	1.5%		$
Buffalo Wild Wings® $25.00	8%		$
Build-A-Bear Workshop® $25.00	8%		$
Burger King $10.00	7%		$
Casey's $25.00	3%		$
Casey's $50.00	3%		$
Chewy $25.00	5%		$
Chili's Grill & Bar $25.00	10%		$
Cinemark $25.00	6%		$
Cracker Barrel $25.00	8%		$
Crumbl $10.00	7%		$
Crumbl $25.00	7%		$
CVS Pharmacy $25.00	7%		$
Dairy Queen $10.00	6.5%		$
Dave & Buster's $25.00	13%		$
Dick's Sporting Goods $100.00	8%		$
Dick's Sporting Goods $25.00	8%		$
Dillard's $25.00	9%		$
Domino's $10.00	8%		$
DSW $25.00	10.5%		$

Product	%	QTY	Total
Dunkin' $10.00	3.5%		$
Famous Footwear $25.00	8%		$
Fareway Meat & Grocery $25.00	3%		$
Firehouse Subs $25.00	6%		$
Foot Locker $25.00	8%		$
Freddy's $25.00	8%		$
Fresh Thyme Market $25.00	5%		$
Gap $25.00	14%		$
Google Play $25.00	3%		$
Great Clips $25.00	8%		$
H&M $25.00	7%		$
Hardee's $10.00	5%		$
Harry & David $50.00	12%		$
HomeGoods $25.00	6%		$
Jewel Osco $25.00	4%		$
Journeys $25.00	10%		$
Kentucky Fried Chicken $10.00	6%		$
Kohl's $25.00	7%		$
Kwik Star $25.00	4%		$
Kwik Trip $25.00	4%		$
Little Caesars Pizza $20.00	8%		$
Lowe's $25.00	4%		$
Marshalls $25.00	6%		$
McDonald's $10.00	3%		$
Menards $25.00	3%		$
Michaels $25.00	7.5%		$
Noodles & Company $25.00	8%		$
Office Depot / Office Max $25.00	5%		$
Old Navy $25.00	14%		$
Olive Garden $25.00	8%		$
Panda Express $25.00	8%		$
Panera Bread $10.00	8%		$
Papa Murphy's Pizza $10.00	8%		$

Product	%	QTY	Total
PetSmart $25.00	6%		$
Pizza Ranch $25.00	8%		$
Red Lobster $25.00	8%		$
Red Robin $25.00	8%		$
Ross Dress for Less $25.00	8%		$
Sam's Club $25.00	2.5%		$
Scheels $25.00	8%		$
Sephora $25.00	6.5%		$
Shell $25.00	1.5%		$
Sonic $10.00	8%		$
Starbucks $10.00	4.5%		$
Starbucks $25.00	4.5%		$
Subway Restaurants $10.00	6%		$
T.J. Maxx $25.00	6%		$
Taco Bell $10.00	5%		$
Target $100.00	2.5%		$
Target $25.00	2.5%		$
Texas Roadhouse $25.00	8%		$
ULTA $25.00	7%		$
Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee $100.00	1.25%		$
Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee $25.00	1.25%		$
Walgreens $25.00	5%		$
Walmart $25.00	2.5%		$
Wendy's $25.00	6%		$

Make Checks Payable To: *Orion Middle School*

Total Due All Columns: $



OMS – OCTOBER MENU



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Biscuit Baby Carrots Strawberries	**2** Calzone with Marinara Italian Vegetables Salad Mixed Fruit
5 Breaded Pork Tenderloin on Bun Baked Beans Fresh Vegetables Applesauce	**6** Garlic Cheese French Bread Pizza with Marinara Green Beans Romaine Lettuce with Tomatoes Grape Juice	**7** Crispitos Corn Salad Tropical Fruit	**8** Ham and Cheese on Croissant Cucumbers Potato Salad Peaches	**9** PB&J Uncrustable Baby Carrots Paradise Punch Sliced Apples
12 Mandarin Orange Chicken over Rice Stir Fry Vegetables Dragon Punch Pineapple	**13** Walking Tacos Refried Beans Vegetables with Dip Pears	**14** Mini Corndogs Potato Smiles Cucumbers Cherry Applesauce	**15** Spaghetti Garlic Toast Green Beans Salad Mixed Fruit	**16** Pulled Pork Sandwich on Bun Baked Potato Coleslaw Orange
19 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Dinner Roll Baby Carrots Peaches	**20** Hamburger on Bun Tater Tots Celery with Dip Cinnamon Applesauce	**21** Bosco Sticks with Marinara Cooked Carrots Broccoli with Dip Pears	**22** Tacos Refried Beans Sidekick Fruit Cup	**23** **No School**
26 Mini Pancakes Yogurt Hashbrowns Wango Mango Juice Mixed Berries	**27** Chicken Fajitas Corn Fiesta Beans Tropical Fruit	**28** Pizza Peas Salad Fruit Punch	**29** Pretzel Dog Sweet Potato Fries Ants on a Log Sliced Apples with Caramel	**30** Breaded Chicken Sandwich on Bun Broccoli and Cheese Cucumbers Fruit Cup

*Lunch Prices: Student $3.75 (includes milk), Reduced price $.40, Adult $4.75

À la carte Options: Milk $.50, Main Entree $2.50, Fruit/Vegetable $1.00, Water/Juice $.75, Snack/Ice Cream $1.00, Cookies $.75

** Menu subject to change due to availability

OMS NOVEMBER Menu

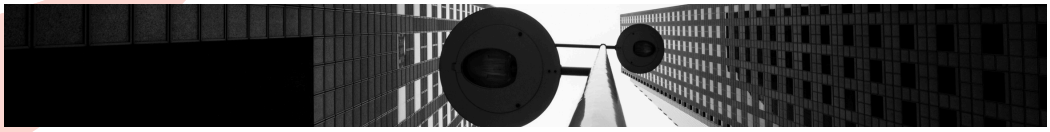
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Burrito Salad Mini Peppers Applesauce	**3** **No School - Election Day**	**4** BBQ Rib on Bun Baked Beans Potato Salad Orange	**5** Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Biscuit Baby Carrots Strawberries	**6** Calzone with Marinara Vegetable Blend Salad Pineapple
9 Chicken Tenders Waffle Corn Wango Mango Juice Fruit Cup	**10** Macho Nachos Ranchero Beans Salad Peaches	**11** **No School - Veterans' Day**	**12** Breaded Pork Tenderloin on Bun Baked Potato Salad Sidekick	**13** Soft Baked Pretzel Cheese Sauce Celery with Peanut Butter Sweet Potato Fries Apple Slices
16 Cheeseburger on Bun Tater Tots Carrots with Dip Mandarin Oranges	**17** Turkey with Gravy Mashed Potatoes Pumpkin Bread Peas and Carrots Salad Baked Cinnamon Apples	**18** Garlic Cheese French Bread Pizza with Marinara Green Beans Salad Mixed Fruit	**19** Madarin Orange Chicken over Rice Stir Fry Vegetables Dragon Punch Pineapple	**20** Walking Tacos Refried Beans Sidekick Pears
23 Quesadilla Corn Vegetables with Dip Applesauce	**24** **Early Dismissal - No Lunch Served**	**25** **No School - Thanksgiving Break**	**26** **No School - Thanksgiving Break**	**27** **No School - Thanksgiving Break**
30 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Dinner Roll Coleslaw Peaches				

*Lunch Prices: Student $3.75 (includes milk), Reduced price $.40, Adult $4.75

À la carte Options: Milk $.50, Main Entree $2.50, Fruit/Vegetable $1.00, Water/Juice $.75, Snack/Ice Cream $1.00, Cookies $.75

** Menu subject to change due to availability

OHS



ORION-TATION

We want to thank all of the students and parents who attended our Orion-tation Night on August 10. Parents, your participation sends a powerful message to our students about the importance of education, and strong parent involvement continues to be one of the most important factors in helping students succeed. We look foward to a great year and hope to see everyone at Parent/Teacher Conferences.

OCTOBER PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Orion High School will host Parent/Teacher Conferences on Wednesday, October 21st and Thursday, October 22nd from 3:00 - 7:30 p.m. All high school parents are invited to visit the high school on these days and meet with any or all of your son's/daughter's teachers.

Conferences will be scheduled in ten minute blocks. Please email Tara Stropes, tstropes@orionschools.us, after October 1st to schedule your time and day.



SENIOR CAPS AND GOWNS

Meredyth McManus with Herff Jones will be at OHS on October 15 to work with seniors on how to order caps and gowns as well as graduation announcements. She will return on October 27 during lunch periods to assist students with placing their orders.

OHS YEARBOOK NEWS

The 2026 edition of the Orion Charger yearbook has arrived and books have been distributed to those students currently at OHS who paid for a yearbook last year at registration. There are extra yearbooks still available.

Members of the OHS graduating class of 2026 who purchased a yearbook should have it picked up from the high school office before the end of December. Beginning January 1, any unclaimed copies will be released for sale to the public. Records of pre-payment for yearbooks are not maintained after this date.

The high school has a few mint-condition copies of Orion Charger yearbooks from 1987 through 2025 available for sale to the public at a generous discount. Contact the high school office to purchase a copy.

OMS/OHS MUSIC CONCERTS

THE OMS/OHS FALL CHOIR CONCERT WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE OHS MAIN GYM. WE ARE EXCITED TO KICK OFF THIS YEAR'S CONCERTS AND HOPE TO SEE A GREAT TURNOUT.

ORION MUSIC BOOSTERS HAS PREFERRED PARKING BEHIND THE CONCESSION STAND FOR HOME FOOTBALL GAMES. THE COST IS $3.00 AND PROCEEDS GO TO THE ORION MUSIC BOOSTERS.



OHS



RECRUITER ACCESS TO STUDENT INFORMATION

The No Child Left Behind Act requires that schools that receive federal assistance under the act provide recruiters from our armed forces or institutions of higher learning, access to student names and directory information such as addresses and telephone numbers. Orion High School receives assistance under this act. Therefore, we are obligated to provide student directory information to military or college recruiters when it is requested. However, you as parents have certain rights under the act as well. You can request that your child's directory information not be released without your prior written approval. If you do not want your child's name released, please send a signed written note to Orion High School, and we will see that your child's name is not released. Please submit this letter to Orion High School no later than Friday, October 16.

Winter Sports



Anyone interested in Orion High School athletics this winter - all paperwork, physical, and participation fees must be turned in prior to the start of the first practice. Please visit SNAP! to register. https://schools.snap.app/orion

Girls' Basketball begins November 2, and Boys' Basketball and Wrestling begin November 9. All practice times will be announced at pre-season meetings.

PSAT

ATTENTION JUNIORS!!!

WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 14TH
PSAT/NMSQT



Seniors should begin applying to their post-secondary schooling choices. Student transcripts may be requested from the school counselor via the Orion School District website. Some applications will also require a recommendation and/or secondary school report. Early decision deadlines vary from institution to institution so please check with each institution for their deadlines. Early decisions can be either binding (student is legally bound to attend that institution when admitted under early decision) or unbinding (student is not legally bound to accept the offer of admission). The student will need to call each institution to determine whether the decision is binding or unbinding.

Seniors are allowed three days to visit colleges. Many colleges will require placement tests for classes and interviews for scholarships. Saving these days allows the student the flexibility needed for these activities. A college visit may be requested through Mrs. Amador or Mrs. Jackson, office secretaries. The process is the same as any prearranged absence except that there is a yellow college visit form that will need to be signed by an official at the college visited and returned to the high school office in order to confirm the visit.





The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) opens October 1st. Please follow the link to create an account and obtain your FSA ID prior to completing the FAFSA. Parents and students must have their own accounts to apply for financial aid. Each account is linked to a Social Security Number and has a unique username and password, also known as an FSA ID. This FSA ID acts as a legal digital signature.
https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch

Completing the FAFSA is now required by the state of Illinois for students to receive their diploma. If you choose not to complete the FAFSA, there is a FAFSA Non-Participation Form that will need to be filled out. Completing and submitting the FAFSA is not only free and quick, but it gives you access to the largest source of financial aid to pay for college or career school every year. In addition, many states and colleges use your FAFSA data to determine your eligibility for state and school aid. Some private financial aid providers may use your FAFSA information to determine whether you qualify for their aid. Completing the FAFSA as soon as possible is crucial to determine your family's financial need and eligibility for the Federal Pell and Illinois MAP Grants. Please feel free to reach out to Ms. Bakener with any questions at jbakener@orionschools.us or (309) 526-3361, Ext. 1404.



OHS – OCTOBER MENU



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 French Bread Pizza Carrots Orange	**2** Chicken & Cheese Quesadilla Green Beans Applesauce
5 Bosco Sticks Salad Peaches	**6** Tacos Hard & Soft Shell Lettuce & Cheese Taco Fiesta Beans Pineapple	**7** Mini Pancakes Sausage Patty Tater Tots Orange Juice	**8** Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Sidekick	**9** Grilled Cheese Choice of Tomato or Potato Soup Carrots Apple
12 Chili in Cornbread Bowl Carrots Mixed Fruit	**13** Garlic & Cheese Pull Aparts with Marinara Salad Mandarin Oranges	**14** Chicken Patty on Bun Ranchero Beans Pears	**15** Hot Dog on Bun Corn Apple	**16** ***LUCKY TRAY DAY*** BBQ Pulled Pork on Bun Potato Smiles Strawberries
19 Fish Shapes Mac & Cheese Peas Sidekick	**20** Chicken Rice Bowl Carrots Applesauce	**21** Pizza Hut Pizza Cheese, Sausage & Pepperoni Salad Peaches	**22** Biscuit & Sausage Gravy Celery with Peanut Butter Orange Juice	**23** **No School**
26 Spaghetti with Meat Sauce Garlic Stick Salad Apple	**27** Chicken & Cheese Crispito Carrots Pears	**28** BBQ Rib on Bun French Fries Tropical Raisins	**29** Bacon Cheeseburger on Bun Cucumbers with Hummus Blueberries	**30** Bosco Sticks Celery with Peanut Butter Sidekick

*Lunch Prices: Student $3.75 (includes milk), Reduced price $.40, Adult $4.75

À la carte Options: Milk $.50, Main Entree $2.50, Fruit/Vegetable $1.00, Water/Juice $.75, Snack/Ice Cream $1.00, Cookies $.75

** Menu subject to change due to availability

OHS NOVEMBER Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Chicken Rice Bowl Carrots Mixed Fruit	**3** **No School - Election Day**	**4** Spicy Chicken on Bun Celery with Peanut Butter Applesauce	**5** ***LUCKY TRAY DAY*** Mini French Toast Yogurt Hash Brown Grape Juice	**6** Mandarin Orange Chicken Fried Rice Peas Pineapple Fortune Cookie
9 Chicken & Cheese Quesadilla Taco Fiesta Beans Mandarin Oranges	**10** Macho Nachos Carrots Pineapple	**11** **No School - Veterans' Day**	**12** Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Peaches	**13** Bosco Sticks Salad Apple
16 Pretzel Wrapped Hotdog Corn on the Cob Pears	**17** Chicken Fajitas Salad Orange	**18** Pizza Hut Pizza Cheese, Sausage or Pepperoni Carrots Strawberries	**19** Grilled Cheese Choice of Potato or Chicken Noodle Soup Celery with Peanut Butter Sidekick	**20** Turkey & Cheese on Pretzel Bun Mango Wango Juice Applesauce
23 Turkey & Gravy Mashed Potatoes Baked Apples Roll Cookie	**24** **Early Dismissal - No Lunch Served**	**25** **No School - Thanksgiving Break**	**26** **No School - Thanksgiving Break**	**27** **No School - Thanksgiving Break**
30 Popcorn Chicken Mozzarella Cheese Stick Potato Wedges Apple				

*Lunch Prices: Student $3.75 (includes milk), Reduced price $.40, Adult $4.75

À la carte Options: Milk $.50, Main Entree $2.50, Fruit/Vegetable $1.00, Water/Juice $.75, Snack/Ice Cream $1.00, Cookies $.75

** Menu subject to change due to availability










THREE RIVERS CONFERENCE
GOLF TOURNAMENT
WELCOME PLAYERS & FANS


VIP





ORION BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION 2027

Orion Community Unit School District #223 will have five (5) School Board seats to be filled at the April 6, 2027, Consolidated Election. Candidates who are elected will fill four-year terms expiring in April 2031. School board elections are nonpartisan and board candidates do not indicate a political party affiliation.

To qualify for school board membership, an individual must be, as of the date of election:
****A United States citizen;***
****A resident of the state of Illinois and of the school district for at least one-year preceding election;***
****At least 18 years of age;***
****A registered voter; and***
****Not a school trustee.***

Candidates for the office of School Board can begin to circulate nominating petitions for signatures beginning August 25, 2026. The period for filing nominating papers runs from November 16 through November 23, 2026, at the Henry County Clerk's Office in Cambridge, Illinois.

Membership of the board of education is restricted to a maximum of three members from any congressional township. The five seats with terms expiring in April 2027 are from the townships of Colona (2) (Sonia Berg and Colton Drish), Rural (2) (Julie Abbott and Kim Nightingale), and Western (1) (Jon Stockton). On the basis of the existing board membership, members may be elected in the following numbers from each congressional township:

****Not more than 3 may be elected from Lynn Township.***
****No members may be elected from Western Township.***
****Not more than 3 may be elected from Andover Township.***
****Not more than 3 may be elected from Osco Township.***
****Not more than 1 may be elected from Colona Township.***
****Not more than 3 may be elected from Edford Township.***
****Not more than 1 may be elected from Rural Township.***
****Not more than 3 may be elected from Coal Valley I Township.***

Additional information and petitions may be obtained at the Henry County Clerk's Office in Cambridge, Illinois (or their website: www.henrycty.com) OR the State Board of Elections' website: http://www.elections.il.gov/. Additional information may be obtained at the Illinois Association of School Boards' website: www.iasb.com.

Orion School District
Administration



Chad Bahnks - Superintendent
309-526-3388



Nathan DeBaillie - Orion High School Principal
309-526-3361



Abby Thomsen - Orion Middle School Principal
309-526-3392



RC Lowe - CR Hanna Elementary School Principal
309-526-3386

More Information:

Phone Number
309-526-3388

Visit Our Website
www.orionschools.us

Visit Our Facebook Page
www.facebook.com/OrionCUSD223