



LUDINGTON AREA SCHOOLS

OJ DEJONGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Michael Hart
Principal

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Dean of Students

March 12, 2024

Dear Fifth Grade Students and Families:

The faculty and staff of O.J. DeJonge Middle school is excited to welcome the Class of 2031 to our school community! We are proud of the many accomplishments of our students and know that this group will continue the tradition of excellence at O.J.

Mrs. Bacon and Mr. Hull, school counselors from O.J. DeJonge Middle School, will be visiting the fifth grade classrooms on March 14, 18, and 19 to discuss the transition to the middle school as well as to have students sign up for their exploratory, or elective, course offerings. The elective classes that are offered to sixth graders are available on the next page. Please have some conversation with your fifth grader in regards to the elective offerings that we have available.

During the month of May, we will schedule a time for the current fifth graders to visit O.J. DeJonge Middle School. During this visit, the current fifth graders will have the opportunity to take tours of the building and engage in a variety of activities led by our current eighth grade student mentors. More information will be shared on this opportunity later this spring.

Additionally, we will be holding a number of events throughout the month of August to help orient our newest students to our school community. Information regarding these events will be communicated via mail, Power Announcer, and electronically on LASD.net, the O.J. DeJonge Middle School Parent Info Facebook page, and on Twitter @OJ_Orioles.

We look forward to meeting our soon-to-be sixth graders and helping them learn about their middle school experience. Please contact our main office at (231) 845-3810 if you have any questions.

With Oriole Pride,

Michael Hart
Principal

Course offerings continued on next page

6th Grade Elective Class Offerings

Art 6

This course allows exploration with many types of art media. Pencils, paper, clay and paint are just some of the materials used. This is a wonderful introduction to the middle school art experience.

Exploring Woods 6

A hands on class with an introduction to learning basic hand tools, techniques, machinery, finishing techniques and safety. Students will construct a teacher chosen project or projects.

Choir 6

Students Will Work On Theory Concepts, Ear Training, Sight Reading, Breath Management, And Choral Technique. Sixth grade students will have the opportunity to perform in recitals on a trimester basis.

Intro to Musical Theater 6

Students will be introduced to the world of music theater through this one trimester course. Students will learn the art of performance, public speaking and aspects of the behind-the-scenes work done such as lighting and costumes.

Band 6 (3 trimesters)

Sixth grade band is meant to be an introduction to the band program at OJ DeJonge Middle School and Ludington High School. Students will have the opportunity to perform in a variety of venues.

Robotics 6

Sixth grade students will have the opportunity to engage in STEAM-related fields through working to build and code robots to perform a variety of functions through this course. Students will use multiple skills such as collaboration, communication, and problem solving to build a working robot.

STEAM 6

Students will participate in multiple project-based learning opportunities meant to foster a deeper understanding of concepts in science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics. Students will connect with experts in a variety of STEAM-related fields to solve real-world, authentic problems.

Quiz Bowl 6

This social studies elective is designed to provide students with the opportunity to learn about the quiz bowl program at OJ DeJonge Middle School and Ludington High School. Students will learn additional historical facts and will engage in a variety of activities meant to stimulate their thinking.

Note - Students must have at least one of the following classes to fulfill the state health requirement.

Health and PE 6

We will first take a look at where you are in your physical fitness level and what goals you can work towards in order to build a healthy lifestyle. Several team sports and games will be taught along with an introduction to aerobics and hand weights for a strength training program. The following units will be taught in the health classroom: Drug Education, Mental Health, and Puberty and Reproductive Health. Some of the main topics discussed in class are assertive behavior and decision making, bullying, and puberty.

Swimming/Health 6

Students will have opportunities to experience aquatic activities during this course. The class follows the American Red Cross swimming standards and is designed for swimmers and non-swimmers to actively participate.

Outdoor Recreation/Health 6

This course is designed to provide students with introductory activities to explore the many outdoor recreation activities that are available in our community.