

From Dr. Stone:

The 2020-21 school year is underway, and thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have made many adjustments in the way our teachers present lessons and our students attend class. I am proud of everyone for making the very best of the situation.

I am grateful for our new and returning students. We are looking forward to the time everyone will be back in school!

In the meantime, I urge the online students to attend class and complete assignments. If you have any questions do not hesitate to reach out to your teachers. They want you to be successful.

Parents, I encourage you to support your children as they navigate this new way we are forced to 'do' school.



New Construction

Oelrichs School District has broken ground on the new high school. It is located directly across from the existing school next to the water tower. Completion is slated for Fall 2021.

The Parents Right to Know and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) are available on the District website: https://oelrichs.k12.sd.us/default.aspx

Counselor's Corner by Nancy Fleming:

Winter is upon us and we can all agree we do not have control over the weather. It sometimes causes us to change plans or schedules and there is not much we can do about it. All of us move ahead in our lives and know that spring will be here eventually. The same understanding can apply to our current situation with the COVID pandemic.

Human beings generally want to have some control over their lives in some way. We often need that. We often find ways to manage our stress and balance ourselves through coping skills, meditation, and prayer.

We are in a tough spot right now. However, we can still use our skills to feel some sense of control and comfort. There are a few things we can add right now to our own toolboxes. The first, is developing a sense of community in some virtual way. We can increase our virtual connections. All our students have an opportunity to do this everyday by joining their classroom on Microsoft Teams. Secondly, establish a routine. Set a time for schoolwork online. Set a time for other activities or chores. In times of stress learning can be very frustrating if there are too many options, responsibilities or distractions happening. Third, try to keep good health habits. Keep a structured sleeping (no phones or gaming), eating and exercise schedule. Yes, it is easier said than done. But it is a way to feel in control of your life when everything feels out of control. Our health depends on this right now and we can take control of the things that do keep us safe and healthy.

Lastly, get engaged with your life. Live in your day and remember that you are making decisions every day that effect your future opportunities, goals and dreams. The future is still ahead of you. There will be a spring. The sun still rises and sets, the sky is sometimes cloudy and sometimes blue, sometimes it rains and sometimes it snows. We will get through this. Get engaged each day and do one good thing for yourself. Education is a good thing.

Dates to Remember:

- Oct. 30 End of 1st qtr.
- Nov. 6 Teacher in-service
- Nov. 25-27 Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 14-Jan. Christmas Break



Oelrichs 20-21 Cross Country Team

L-R Austin Airheart Hugh Knickherem Amelia Her Many Horses Daniel Catches Coached by: Mr. Buff