O’Keeffe
Middle School
School Supplement to the District Policy Guide
2018-2019
School Overview

This booklet is intended to give information that you and your student should know about O’Keeffe Middle School. Please read it carefully and keep it handy for ready reference.

O’Keeffe Middle School serves a diverse school community of 500 plus learners. The school staff is committed to engaging all students and establishing consistency in curriculum and behavior through relationship building and communication. The school is an active community member and partner, joining with other groups and organizations that assist students in their transitions from childhood to adulthood. O’Keeffe Middle School features a rigorous curriculum offered in a safe and orderly school environment.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns. I look forward to working with you and your student(s).

Sincerely,

Tony Rivera Dugas, Jr.
Principal

School mission statement
The middle school is designed for pupils who are making the transition from childhood to adolescence, from elementary to high school. This period of transition is one of emotional stresses with a wide variation among pupils in social, intellectual, and physical development. As a transitional school, the middle school is designed to meet the unique developmental needs and special interests of this age group.

Telephone
OFFICE: (608) 204-6820
FAX: (608) 204-0561
ATTENDANCE / SAFE ARRIVAL: (608) 204-6821

Address
510 S Thornton Ave
Madison, WI 53703

Web address
https://okeeffe.madison.k12.wi.us
facebook.com/MMSDOKeeffe

School calendar
September 3  NO SCHOOL – Labor Day
September 4  First day of School for Grade 6
September 5  First day of School – All Grades
September 10  Early Release
September 17  Early Release
September 24  Early Release
October 1  Early Release
October 8  Early Release
October 15  Early Release
October 29  Early Release
Key Policies and Guidelines

Child care/after-school information
After-hours activity period (2:52-4:15) enriches the curriculum of the school by making available a wide variety of offerings in which a student may participate. Watch the announcements for further information and starting dates. Some club offerings may include:

Art   Band   Basketball   Battle of the Books
Chess  Computers   Cooking   Dance Troop
Drama  Dungeons & Dragons   Flag Football   Girls on Track
GSA   Horseback Riding   Jazz Band   Jump Rope
Literary Magazine   Photography   Rock Climbing   Skateboard
Ski Club   Student Ambassadors   Student Council   Pop Choir
Tennis   Track   Wrestling   Volleyball
Yearbook   Soccer   Softball   Yoga

Programs are held immediately after school and last until 4:15, when a bus departs from the school.

School fees
Activity:   $17.00
Consumables:   $20.00
Textbook:   $35.00
Planner:   $8.00
Locks:    $6.00/each
Yearbook (Optional):  $15.00
Fee waiver forms are available in the main office upon request.

Releasing children from school during the day
If your child needs to leave the building early, please send a written note with your child on the day of the absence excusing them from school. They should bring the note to the office first thing in the morning, allowing office staff to issue a pass slip. This will allow your child to leave class and the building at the time designated. However, if they do not bring a note, you will be required to come to the office and sign them out.

Anti-bullying
Harassment forms are available in the main office for anyone requesting one.

Dress code
Generally, students may dress in any style they desire as long as their chosen attire does not cause a disruption or distraction in the school environment, reveal intimate body parts or pose a safety risk to the student or others. The following examples are intended to represent these limitations:

- Students may not wear hats during the school day.
- Students may not wear multi-fingered rings, large metal chains or other jewelry that may be used as a weapon.
- Students must wear their pants at a level that does not expose undergarments. Boxers, thong underwear and athletic shorts may not show over the waist band.
- Students may not wear clothing with vulgar or obscene statements or statements or pictures promoting illegal drugs, alcohol, sex, violence or gang activities.
• Students may not wear clothing with words, pictures or caricatures based on negative stereotypes of a specific gender, race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, sexual orientation or disability. Students may not wear shirts, hats or other attire with Native American team names, logos or mascots that depict negative stereotypes. A list of team names, logos and mascots prohibited under this provision is available at all schools and on the District website.
• Students may not wear skirts or shorts that expose undergarments or the buttocks.
• See-through clothing items are not permitted. Tops should be sufficient so as not to expose a student’s bra.
• Students must wear shoes or footwear.
• Students who are dressed in a manner that does not fit within these guidelines may be asked by school staff to change their clothing or address the dress code violation. Students are expected to follow staff direction regarding dress code violations.

Parent/teacher conferences
November 12    NO SCHOOL - Parent/Teacher Conferences
November 20    Parent/Teacher Evening Conferences
March 1        NO SCHOOL – Parent/Teacher Conferences

Family engagement
O’Keeffe PTG meetings are the second Wednesday of every month from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. in the LMC.

We publish a newsletter monthly that is available online at: okeeffe.madison.k12.wi.us.

Electronic devices
Devices must be in lockers. If they are not, they may be confiscated and may require a parent to visit to retrieve it.

Cellular devices, iPods, MP3 players and CD players are not permitted in any classrooms. If brought to school, students must keep them in their lockers for the entire school day. Staff members may confiscate these items if they become disruptive. Items can be picked up by their owners at the end of the school day. Phones will be confiscated and returned only to an adult by the principal after the first warning.

Find more information in the district policy guide, found at www.mmsd.org/policy-guide.