



2024-2025

8:20 am to 3:30 pm
Doors open at 7:35 am
843-903-8420

School Colors:

Royal Blue, Teal, Silver & Black

School Mascot: Stingray

Welcome to Ocean Bay Middle School for the 2023-2024 school year! This will be an exciting year of learning opportunities for all students. We will provide students with opportunities to develop lifelong skills as well as the career characteristics described in The Profile of a South Carolina Graduate. Teachers will provide a rigorous curriculum to include technological experiences, blended learning, and collaborative opportunities. Our faculty, staff, parents, and members of the community work collaboratively to ensure the best learning opportunities for all students. We are excited about this school year and look forward to a rewarding year for all our students.

Sincerely,
Marcus Timmons, Principal

OUR VISION

Ocean Bay Middle School creates a culture where students come to discover and experience learning by collaborating with teachers and peers. We strive to build a strong foundation and to understand and appreciate the wealth we see in each other. Furthermore, we believe in ourselves and our abilities to do great things individually, but even greater things together.

MISSION

The mission of Ocean Bay Middle School, a diverse student-centered learning community, is to guarantee that all students are fully prepared, successful contributors in a rapidly changing global society through relevant, rigorous, standards-driven personalized learning provided in a safe, nurturing environment.

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcements will be made through the OBM TV channel. Mrs. Lovette is the sponsor. You may contact her for any announcements needed.

STUDENT HANDBOOK

In addition to the OBM student handbook, each student receives a copy of The Horry County Schools Parent/Student Handbook (PSH). References are made to it throughout this handbook.

ACADEMICS

The school day operates on a 6 period schedule. The 4 academic classes consist of Math, Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. Each student has two discovery classes and an advisory time at the beginning of the day. Students will receive academic plans for each class with expectations, procedures, and teacher contact information.

STUDY/FIELD TRIPS

Field trips will be standards driven and arranged by teachers. **Adult volunteers must be cleared through the district office prior to being a volunteer.** School expectations, procedures, and rules are in place on any field trip event.

PROMOTION/RETENTION GRADING SCALE

See your PSH (HCS "Parent/Student Handbook") for information on requirements that must be met in order to be promoted to the next grade. The grading scale is as follows:

- A=90-100
- B=80-89
- C=70-79
- D=60-69
- F=59 and below

DIGITAL LEARNING DEVICE

Students will be issued their assigned digital learning device. The device is a tool for learning and will be used throughout the school day. Students are responsible for following all procedures on use and care of their digital

device. Students may take the device home IF the technology fee has been paid.

ATTENDANCE

Upon three (3) consecutive or five (5) unlawful absences a student is truant. Attempts will be made to establish contact with the parent/guardian to arrange a conference. During the conference, a written plan called an AIP (Attendance Intervention Plan) will be developed with you, your student, and the school so that all have a clear understanding regarding the future attendance of your student.

Parent notes are NOT accepted as an excused absence, although we do ask that you send a note, email, or call if your student is going to be absent. Excused absences are: Bereavement, Medical, Principal Approved (with PRIOR arrangements made with the school principal), a school field trip/school activity, or Legal. Proper documentation must be turned in to the attendance clerk when the student returns to school.

If a student is absent from school...

On the day of return, the student must bring a note to the Attendance Clerk before classes begin. Without a note, the absence is unverified.

The note should include the following:

- ~ Current date
- ~ Student's name
- ~ Dates of absence
- ~ Parent signature
- ~ Reason for absence
- ~ The parent's daytime phone number

Doctor's notes must be verifiable, and they ONLY excuse the dates and times stated on the doctor's note.

TARDIES

Students are tardy to school after 8:20 am. **A parent note does not excuse tardiness. Any student arriving after 8:20 a.m. must be walked into the building by the Parent/Guardian. If a student arrives more than 30 minutes after a class has begun, they do not receive attendance credit for that class.**

Consequences for arriving tardy to school are as follows:

1st offense: Verbal Warning and parent notification

2nd offense: Verbal Warning/Parent Contact to make them aware of after school detention (and

consequences for subsequent tardies)

3rd through 5th offense: After School Detention/Parent Contact. A one hour after school detention assigned and supervised by school staff; assigned one week to be served the next week. Note: If students do not attend after-school detention consequences of ISS will result (step 7)

6th offense: Suspended pending parent conference; possible revocation of waiver, if applicable.

7th offense and beyond:

7th - 1 day of ISS

8th - 2 days of ISS

9th - 1 day of OSS

10th - 2 days of OSS

11th - Evidentiary Hearing

With the exception of arriving late, the tardy to class policy will begin over in the second semester. The tardy report is run once a month & consequences will be issued at that time.

MAKE UP WORK

Students are expected to be in school on a regular basis to achieve specific curriculum objectives. Students are required to ask for all work missed. Teachers will allow a reasonable amount of time for work to be turned in.

EARLY DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

If your student needs to be picked up early, a note must be brought to the front office first thing in the morning by the student. In the note, please include the student's name, grade, name of person picking up and the dismissal time. The student will be given a pass to leave the classroom at the appointed time. This **MUST** be done so that we do not put telephone calls through to the classroom and cause unnecessary disruptions during instructional time. **ONLY** parents/guardians and people listed in your student's PowerSchool may sign out the student. **NO student can be signed out of school after 3:00 PM without a dismissal note.**

ALPHA AND BETA AWARD

Alpha Awards are given to students who have all A's in all academic subjects each quarter. Beta Awards are given to students who have a B or better in all academic subjects each quarter. Assemblies will be held to award students' certificates after each semester.

TECHNOLOGY

Computers are available for student use in computer labs, classrooms and in the media center. However, before a student may use any device, the student and parent must sign the Policy for Student Use of Computers/Digital Device, which is given out during the first week of school.

Students will be assigned a digital device for school use only. If a student owes technology fees or has a device from the previous year(s), they will not be issued a device. **Students who have paid their technology fee will be able to take their device home.** The student will be personally responsible for their device through the school day and at home. Parents/Guardians may decline this assignment of a digital device. The technology fee “digital device insurance” can be purchased to help alleviate the cost of the student’s device if damaged.

Consequences may be issued to students due to misuse of their district issued devices.

BOOKS

Students are responsible for all books they are issued and are required to pay for lost or damaged books including books checked out from the Media Center.

GRADE REPORTING

Students receive an interim grade at the middle of each nine weeks and a report card at the end of each nine weeks. Parents may access interim grades via PowerSchool. Report cards will be available through PowerSchool and will be emailed to parents. Please contact the school if you need your username or password for PowerSchool.

ARRIVAL

Cafeteria doors open at 7:35am. **DUE TO NO SUPERVISION, STUDENTS ARE NOT TO BE DROPPED OFF BEFORE 7:35am.**

All students will enter through the cafeteria. All students will be searched each day upon arrival.

DISMISSAL

Students will be dismissed by bus number/car rider/walker. Bus riders will exit at the door to the left of the gym. Walkers will exit **through** the locker room doors. Car riders will exit **through** the cafeteria. Students are required to leave campus at dismissal. There is to be no loitering after school. If students are staying after school for tutoring or club meetings, they are to report there immediately.

BUSES AND TRANSPORTATION

The Bus Lot is located on the west side of campus and students depart and board buses in this area. **Students may not change buses due to limited space on buses.** All bus numbers and routes may be viewed online at horrycountyschools.net. Click on the Departments tab and then Transportation.

To ensure a timely dismissal, students are expected to go directly to the car rider line, board their assigned bus, or walk directly home.

CAR RIDERS

Car riders are dropped off and picked up in the designated car drop-off area in front of the school. Car riders must be dropped off and picked up from under the front awning only. **Car Riders may only be picked up from the designated area. Students are not permitted to be picked up in any faculty, staff, or bus parking area. Students should be picked up promptly after dismissal. Parents are asked to pull all the way forward before allowing students to enter vehicles. All car riders are to be picked up by 3:45 pm unless they are attending an after-school activity.**

All students are required to leave school property after dismissal unless attending an after-school activity. If an activity does not begin right after dismissal students must go home and be brought back to school.

Any changes in the afternoon transportation of your student MUST be received in writing before 2:30 PM. After this time, we cannot ensure that your student will be made aware of the change.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

The signal for a fire evacuation will be a loud buzzing of the fire alarm. When this signal is sounded, all students and staff will stop all work and walk **silently** in line out of the building. They should follow the fire evacuation route map posted in every room. Students will remain with their class until the signal is given to re-enter the building. Students need to stay with their assigned teacher & return quickly to their designated area. Fire drills are conducted on a monthly basis.

Tornado, earthquake, and lockdown/intruder drills will occur throughout the year. Students will be informed of the correct procedures for each drill. During any drill all students and staff will go immediately to designated safety areas and follow procedures. It is extremely important for all students to remain quiet and orderly

during any emergency drill. Panic and confusion during an emergency can cause injuries or fatalities.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Student dress should be reasonable, practical, and in good taste for school. All staff and students' school attire should be clean, reflect good taste, and comfortable. The school will make judgments and decisions as to preserve the health, safety, and decorum of students. Student cooperation is expected in the following area:

- Hats, head scarves, headgear, and sunglasses are prohibited inside the school building. Including any hoods.
- The possession of all bandanas is prohibited at OBM.
- Clothing will be worn so that underwear is not visible. **Pants & shirts must overlap at all times.**
- Clothing which is controversial or disruptive is not allowed. Including provocative images or words.
- **No** pajama bottoms or tops are allowed.
- See-through clothing, spaghetti strap tops, tube tops, form-fitting pants, cut-off shirts, halters or clothes exposing the mid-section or bare shoulders are not allowed. Shirts and blouses are to be buttoned appropriately. Tank tops must have a shoulder strap of at least 2 inches in width. It is never appropriate to show undergarments.
- **Shorts, skirts, and dresses, even with leggings, must be longer than the student's fingertips when his/her fingers are extended arm's length by his/her side.** Slits/holes in clothing must also be no shorter than the student's fingertips when shoulders are relaxed and fingers are extended arm's length by his/her side. Gym shorts, cutoffs, bathing suits and short shorts are not appropriate at school. Form fitting pants (for example: yoga pants/leggings) must be worn with a top, shorts, or skirt/dress that meets the fingertip length all the way around.
- Shoes/sandals are to be worn at all times at school. NO bedroom shoes or hee-lies are allowed.
- Hair styles are left to the individual. Health standards require cleanliness at all times.
- Clothing promoting alcohol, drugs, weapons, sexual behavior, clothing with sexual innuendos, and/or ethnic derogatories is not allowed. The administrative staff has the authority to make judgements in this regard. This also pertains to shoe wear.
- Items such as spiked jewelry (including body piercings), padlocks, safety pins, and chains are not

allowed.

Violations of the dress code will be referred to administration and the parents will be called to bring a change of clothes to the school. Meanwhile, the student will wait in In School Suspension (ISS) until the dress code violation is corrected. The ISS location is a supervised classroom where the student can complete classwork until clothing can be corrected.

Violations of the Dress Code will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. On the third dress code violation, the student will receive a discipline referral and a consequence will be given.

BEHAVIOR, LAW, AND SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY

Ocean Bay Middle School follows district policy. Drugs, alcohol, tobacco and alternative tobacco products are prohibited on school property.

Students must study carefully the information in the Horry County Schools Parent/Student Handbook on Weapons, Illegal Drugs, Threats, Bullying to include Social Media, Tobacco Products, and Sexual Harassment.

BEHAVIORS ON CAMPUS

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a proper manner while on school campus, while riding a school bus, and while attending school sponsored activities/events.

CHEATING

Cheating will result in the student receiving a zero for the assignment with no opportunity to re-do the assignment.

CELL PHONES

Personal electronic devices, to include, but not limited to, cell phones and smart watches are **NOT** to be used during the school day. If cell phones and/or personal electronic devices are brought to school, they must be **turned off upon entering the building and must remain so throughout the day until students are dismissed and have exited the building.** If this policy is not adhered to, the device will be taken by school officials. On the first offense students will be required to pick up the device at the end of the day at the front office. **On the second and subsequent violations, the parents will have to pick up the device and the student will receive a discipline referral and a consequence will be given. Headphones and ear buds should not be worn on the head, neck, or in the ear during the school day until**

after students exit the building. Failure to adhere to this policy will result in the same consequences as the cell phone policy.

Items Not to be brought to School (not to be limited to): Spinners, Stuffed Animals, Balloons, Yo-Yo's, laser pointers, whiteout, pen shockers, toys, and other similar items. If these or any items cause a disruption at school they will be taken by school officials and returned to the parent at the discretion of the school administration.

Outside deliveries are not allowed, to include but not limited to, flowers, gifts, etc.

Food deliveries are not permitted.

LUNCH

Food deliveries are not permitted.

Breakfast and lunch will be held in the cafeteria. NO food or drinks other than water may not be brought to classrooms. Parents may not bring in outside food items.

WATER BOTTLES

We have water refilling stations. Students need to bring in a refillable water bottle to have water throughout the day. **NO glass water bottles will be allowed.**

GUM AND CANDY POLICY

No gum chewing is allowed on school grounds during the school day. Consequences will be given for violations of this policy. If candy is given by a teacher as a reward, students **must consume it in that class** or put it away for after school.

SPRAYS

Students may not bring any type of spray cologne, body spray, or spray deodorant at school due to others with allergies or respiratory issues. These items may be confiscated at search & will be returned to students at the end of the day. Repeated violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action by administration. The use of solid deodorants is encouraged.

OFF LIMIT AREAS

All students are to remain on campus once they arrive. Students are to remain in designated, supervised areas upon arrival and throughout the school day. Students should not be in areas where the student does not have classes at that time.

Students involved in supervised activities after school, are to report directly to that activity/club and remain with the activity/club sponsor until they leave the campus.

HALLWAYS/WALKWAY

Students should travel on the right in the hallways/sidewalks in an orderly manner: **no running, pushing, jumping, tripping, or playing.**

Loitering is not permitted; it creates unsafe conditions and causes other students to be late to class.

Social distancing must be maintained.

PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION (PDA)

Public displays of affection, including but not limited to holding hands, hugging and/or kissing, between students is not appropriate at school. Violations of this rule may result in the student being referred to their grade level administrator for disciplinary action.

SOCIAL MEDIA USE

The use of social media for cyberbullying, sexting or other inappropriate actions is prohibited on school grounds and school issued devices. The use of social media through electronic devices (school issued, cell phones, tablets) that deliberately threaten, harrasses, or intimidates an individual or group of individuals; places an individual in reasonable fear of harm to themselves or their property which disrupts the orderly operation of the school and educational environment is prohibited. This includes social media posts that are made off of school grounds but are referenced, shown, or discussed on school grounds. Any individual violating this will be reported to the administrative team and receive a disciplinary action on a case-by-case basis.

ANIMALS

With the exception of service animals, no animal is allowed on school property.

RESTROOMS

Students may use the restroom with teacher permission. Horseplay will not be tolerated in the restroom. If students are using their cell phones while in the restroom it will result in a disciplinary action. Students are to report immediately to a teacher or administrator any violations that may have occurred in the restroom.

Note: Parents should inform teachers if their child has a medical issue that may require frequent or emergency trips to the restroom.

Backpacks and digital devices are not permitted in the restrooms.

ILLNESS /MEDICINE: Nurse Ireland

Medication may not be administered without a written request from the parent on an Horry County Schools "Prescription or Non-prescription" Medication Form.

The prescription medication form MUST be signed by the doctor prior to being administered at school. Also, aspirin may not be given at any time.

Prescription or Over the Counter medicines (Ibuprofen, Pamprin, etc.) must NOT be in the possession of a student at any time. All medicines must be kept in the school health room. Medicine must be given by the school nurse or a person designated by the Principal. The medication must be in the original container and appropriately labeled with instructions by the pharmacy or physician.

Medication in unlabeled containers will not be accepted. All parents are asked to make sure the school has all updated phone numbers and emergency contact names on file.

If a student becomes sick at school and cannot remain in class, the student must obtain a pass from his/her teacher and report to the health room. The Nurse will contact the parent to pick up students who have a fever or are too ill to stay in school. Unnecessary visits to the health room are to be avoided. If an accident occurs, the school nurse or a staff member will give first aid and notify the parents. Any treatment beyond first aid is the responsibility of the parent.

ALL RISING 7TH GRADERS MUST HAVE A TDAP BOOSTER BEFORE ENTERING 7TH GRADE. Please provide proof of immunization to our Nurse.

CONSEQUENCES FOR INFRACTIONS

Lunch Detentions

Lunch detentions are issued to a student for not following classroom rules or school policy and procedures. Students remain at lunch detention throughout lunch and recess. If a student fails to report on their assigned day, he or she will receive a second lunch detention. Failure to serve assigned lunch detention may result in harsher consequences.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS)

In-School Suspension (ISS) may be assigned as a disciplinary consequence. Students receiving this penalty report after advisory with their books, assignments and materials to the ISS classroom on the day they are assigned. Students may be assigned to ISS for a full day, multiple days, or part of a day. The student is responsible for returning work to the correct teacher before they leave for the day to receive credit for the work done during this time.

OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION (OSS)

OSS may be administered as a disciplinary measure in some cases. When a student is suspended out of

school, he/she will not be allowed to come on any HCS grounds unless it is with a parent for a conference with an administrator. The student is not allowed to attend any functions or represent Ocean Bay Middle at any Horry County School including extracurricular activities during the suspension.

EXPULSION

Expulsion is the exclusion of a student for the remainder of the school year from classes or any school related functions. Expulsion is recommended by the administration for any activity which violates criminal laws. Expulsion is also applied in cases involving serious misconduct and continued minor misconduct after reasonable disciplinary measures have failed to achieve satisfactory results. For further information about student conduct, please refer to the Horry County Schools Parent/Student Handbook.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

OBMS will follow all South Carolina High School Athletic League guidelines regarding athletic programs. As athletics resume, 7th & 8th graders may participate in B-Team and high school sports.

Students are expected to adhere to school/district policies when participation in after school activities and/or events.

STUDENTS NOT PICKED UP 15 MINUTES AFTER AN ACTIVITY/EVENT IS OVER WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND ANY FUTURE EVENTS WITHOUT A PARENT/GUARDIAN.

PARENTS AND VOLUNTEERS

All volunteers must be cleared through the district office before volunteering in schools. If you are interested in volunteering, please see the HCS Webpage for further information.

POWERSCHOOL PORTAL

All students and parents have a PowerSchool username and password. We encourage students and parents to actively login to view class grades, assignments, and attendance. Your username and password remain the same while in Horry County Schools. If you are new to Horry County Schools and do not have a username, please contact your school.

PTO

OBMS has an active Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). Fundraising is accomplished through many events. PTO provides teacher/staff appreciation. They participate in our annual field day and provide our students with many educational additions to our school. Parents are

encouraged to be involved with the organization and can contact PTO at obmpto@gmail.com or follow them on Facebook @ Ocean Bay Middle School PTO.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL (SIC)

The SIC meets at the school monthly to review data and discuss issues to develop the annual school-improvement objectives. Parents for SIC are elected in the fall and members serve two-year terms. Nominations are taken at the beginning of each school year.

RECYCLING

We are extremely proud of our school and take measures to ensure a clean and healthy environment. We actively recycle paper, batteries, plastic and electronics. We also are labeled a “no idle zone”. Please turn off cars to avoid emissions while in the car rider line.

CONTACTS

Principal (Marcus Timmons)
6th Grade Administrator (girls: Jennifer Mundy; boys: Robert Hamby)
7th Grade Administrator (Jennifer Mundy)
8th Grade Administrator (Robert Hamby)
6th Grade Guidance (girls: Rhonda Patel; boys: Tashia Bellamy)
7th Grade Guidance (Rhonda Patel) 843-903-8432
8th Grade Guidance (Tashia Bellamy) 843-903-8426
Attendance (Kim Grice) 843-903-8422
Bookkeeper (Beth Burleson) 843-903-8431
Front Office (Tomika Norfleet) 843-903-8420
Technology (Mindy Williamson) 843-903-8418
Media Center (Kim Lovette) 843-903-8438
Nurse (MaryLou Ireland) 843-903-8433
Cafeteria Manager (Linda Lane) 843-903-8437

SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

*Sharing of materials is not recommended. Students' personal items should be labeled.