



Performing Arts 2023-24 Welcome Newsletter

Welcome back to both new and returning Music, Dance, Drama and Performing Arts students!

Staff

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Department Email - ocvipa@ddsbc.ca

Stay informed!

Information about our program is available on our website - www.ocvipa.com

Students will join the PA Department Google Classroom. Join code: **rh5ftsy**

PA Instagram - [@ocvipa](https://www.instagram.com/ocvipa)

PAC (Performing Arts Council)

Student leadership is essential to the running of our program! Students are empowered to organize and support many events in the PA department. The students run our PA Instagram and our website. They run spirit events, create spirit wear, and assist with fundraisers and the running of performances.

If you are new to O'Neill or missed joining in the spring, please attend a meeting to join a committee. PAC meets Wednesdays at lunch in room 210.

OMPAPA (O'Neill Music and Performing Arts Parents' Association)

Parental/Guardian support is essential and appreciated! The association's role is to assist with fundraising, events, production crew assistance and advocacy for our PA program.

SAVE THE DATE! Thursday, September 21st, 7pm. **All Parents/Guardians Social** (Library)

Join the OMPAPA Facebook group to connect with other parents. You must agree to the terms to join this private group.

****Please communicate questions and concerns directly with teachers via email. ****

Upcoming events MAY occasionally be posted on Facebook, but will ALWAYS be posted on our website.

Event Dates

Event dates are posted in the Department Google Classroom and on our website. We are a busy program! Please transfer all dates to a shared home calendar to ensure conflicts are avoided. Check the website for updates. Dates may change.

Rehearsal Schedule

The rehearsal schedule is posted in the Department Google Classroom and on our website. Success is dependent upon a consistent commitment from **all** students involved. Please avoid scheduling appointments during rehearsals. For school conflicts, communicate with the leaders of each activity to reach a compromise.

Participation in extra-curricular ensembles develops soft skills such as:

- Effective communication skills
- Problem-solving skills
- Teamwork
- Dependability
- Adaptability
- Leadership

We highly recommend joining as many ensembles as one can effectively balance.

Memories are created that will last a lifetime!

Cell Phones

Teachers can specify when cell phone use is acceptable during class time and rehearsals. They must be put away, and at no point placed on music stands. If students are dealing with an emergency, they must communicate with their teacher. We have cell phone pouches where we may ask students to place phones if they become a distraction.

Instrument Loan/Rental/Purchase

Regular home practice is integral to achieving success. We are fortunate to have many instruments that are serviced annually to keep in excellent condition which we can loan out. Conversely, we can provide you with information if you wish to rent or purchase an instrument.

Course Fees

Fees off-set the cost of special workshops and performances, guest artists, festival entries, busing, repairs, materials (sheet music, scripts, costumes, make-up, sound and lighting equipment). This is NOT an instrument rental fee.

Grade 9 and 10 Open Instrumental Courses: \$25

Open Dance Courses: \$10

Auditioned Performing Arts Courses: \$30 per course (therefore \$60 for the dual course PA programs)

We ask that the fee be paid by **Friday September 29th** using School Cash On-line.

Uniforms

All students need to purchase an O'Neill PA t-shirt through the department. Black bottoms (pants or skirt with black tights) and black dress shoes are your responsibility to source. No ripped jeans or track pants. Shoes must be all black.

Some performances will require Dress Blacks. The bottoms are the same as above. The top may be a black long sleeved dress shirt, neckline should be collared or a fairly high crew or V neckline. If choosing a dress, hem should be below the knee and black tights are required.

Spirit Wear <https://oneillperformingartsprogram.entripyshops.com/>

We have many designs from which to choose. Spirit Wear makes a great present!

- Visit ENTRIPYSHOPS.COM
- Search your organization - O'Neill Performing Arts Program

Spirit Event

The Bowl-a-fun! is our first event. It is Friday, September 15th at Neb's Funworld. We will bus there at 12:15pm and students are responsible for their own transportation home. Forms and payment (School Cash Online) are due by Friday, September 8th. This is an optional event. We have room for 184 students.