

Happy September!

I am excited to have this opportunity to work with both you and your child over the next year. This year will have a different look to it for sure ~ but we are here for you should you need anything at all times. Over the course of the school year I will send home information via e-mail BLASTs – if you are not receiving those blasts please contact our main office at 341 – 2300 to confirm your e-mail address.

Oswego Middle School (OMS) has a long standing tradition of excellence. Our faculty and staff are committed to your children and to their success in school. As your principal, I will continue to promote the programs and services at OMS that have been successful in the past and look forward to introducing new initiatives that will benefit everyone.

As a life – long resident of Oswego and a graduate of Oswego High School I take pride in the outstanding reputation that our district and schools have always had. I have three children of my own, OHS Class of 2020 Graduate Katie (18), Mia (15) and Michael (15); and I know first – hand how important their experiences in school are. My children, like yours, are enrolled in the Oswego City School District, will be attending OHS virtually this year and are proud to refer to themselves as Buccaneers!

At OMS I hope to promote a climate of growth and enthusiasm that will both challenge and motivate your children to put forth their very best effort at all times. Your input is wanted at all times and I encourage you to contact me via e-mail ([mfierro2@oswego.org](mailto:mfierro2@oswego.org)) or phone or in person.

Safety at OMS is our top priority. We understand that when you send your child to school you have entrusted them to us and we take that responsibility seriously. Our OMS (progressive) Discipline Plan is in place for the 10<sup>th</sup> year. We have made slight adjustments to it as we continue to keep in mind the best interests of the Middle – Level learner. The plan is proactive, restorative in nature, and in line with the district's progressive discipline policy as outlined in our OCSD Code of Conduct.

Attendance at school every day is very important! Even in this virtual/online world it is our expectation that your child will be present in each of their classes each day. If you need help with getting your child to attend virtually please feel free to reach out to us.

At Oswego Middle School we continue to promote positive Character Education in our (virtual) classrooms, hallways, café, etc.; we refer to our program as our '**OMS School Pride Program**'. Each month we are recognizing students for demonstrating positive character traits; our 1<sup>st</sup> two traits have been Integrity and Kindness.

Each day at OMS we remind our students to '*Take Care of Yourself, Take Care of Others, Take Care of Your School*'.

***In the words of John F. Kennedy:*** "Let us think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength of the nation." --

I am looking forward to a GREAT school year!

*Mary Beth Fierro*