

**2025-2026
OSLO MIDDLE SCHOOL
AVIATION HANDBOOK**

Introduction to Aviation! Definition – LOVE to FLY!!!

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the 2025/2026 Oslo Middle School Introduction to Aviation Class! I am so excited to have the privilege of collaborating with you to introduce the exciting world of aviation and enable students to reach for excellence. To reach these goals, it is essential for us all to work together:

- As the teacher, I must facilitate learning by providing sound instruction, demonstration, and assistance.
- Students must make the effort to learn, retain, and apply the information that will help them understand and even innovate in their future endeavors, whether aviation or other fields.
- And finally, parents must not forget how vital a role they play as they encourage their children, commend them for their progress, and promote a positive creative learning environment that will lead to success.

We will work together and individually in class this year to learn the basics of Aviation, as well as certain aspects of teamwork... This class is an extension of the Orchestra. Each member of our Orchestra family contributes by having integrity, a cheerful outlook, and always reaching for their best as well as bringing out the best in those around them. This will make the class very enjoyable and fulfilling as we explore the new opportunities that the world of aviation can bring.

After going through this packet with your child, please fill out the information and signature page and submit it on Canvas. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me by email or phone. Thanks again, and I look forward to a tremendous year!
Musically Yours,

Richard Ballinger
OMS Orchestra/Aviation Director
Phone : 564-3952 Courriel : richard.ballinger@indianriverschools.org

YOU are responsible for YOU!

Think ahead and MAKE A GOOD CHOICE!

Build Learn Understand Excel

We are truly fortunate to have strong and excellent programs from the elementary level through high school in numerous fields, including Aviation. To really get the best, we want to apply positive character qualities that will enable learning to the fullest. These qualities are reflected in Civility, Order, Respect, and Excellence which we will focus on throughout the year.

KEYS TO SUCCESS:

1. **Come to class every day with your computer and necessary supplies.** This is the most fundamental yet essential key to success. It is especially important that you are in class **on time** with your instrument, music, and supplies every day. It is also important that your **body and mind be present in class every day**. Wasted time equals a lack of productivity and added frustration. Do not let anything or anyone distract you from being your best in music class.
2. **Participate daily.**
Participation in class activities is another important key to success. Participation in the group builds confidence and we will develop and grow as a team. You are a member of this class. There are no “benches” in music for those not performing well, and neither is there for flying. Therefore, it is critical that we all participate together to make our team look and feel the best. **Participation will be graded!**
3. **Practice thinking, problem solving on your own!**
The only way to improve and contribute to our class is to keep practicing the thinking and critical thinking skills learned through class. LeBron James became a great basketball player by **practicing**, not sitting around wishing that his skills would improve. He did not just practice with the team. He had to work at it **every day** so that his talent could be perfected. Things in the aviation curriculum may not come naturally at first; that is okay, and the more time you have going through the thought process and applying yourself, the more natural it will feel. You must work at it a little every day so that you can continue to improve. Wishing to improve with no practice is not going to help you develop. It is going to take work on your part. **Be responsible to your team and practice thinking regularly... at school and elsewhere!**

BE INVOLVED in Discussions and Activities!!!

Intro to Aviation Class Procedures

Classroom procedures will produce a more structured BLUE classroom, which in turn will produce more productive learning time.

Upon arrival in class, every student will:

1. Enter the room in a respectful manner.
2. Look on the whiteboard and then prepare for class by immediately getting any supplies needed and readying your computer that has been charged.
3. Spit out any gum, candy, or other items in the mouth.
4. Sit in your **assigned** seat and prepare for that day's lesson on the music stand.
5. No talking or distracting other students during instruction.
6. Treat everyone in class with respect always.

Tardy to class: Students are to be in their seats when the bell rings. Walking in the door when the bell rings or walking to your seat IT IS TARDY and the school tardy policy will be applied accordingly.

Asking for help: Students should raise their hands and wait quietly for assistance. Do not approach the teacher directly, or approach him during class exchange, except in an emergency. Do not talk during class instruction unless called upon. Do not get out of your seat without permission.

Trash: Students should place trash below their chair and wait until dismissal to dispose of waste.

Restroom/Nurse pass: Students should plan and use the restroom before/after class.

Restroom/Nurse EMERGENCY: Must ask respectfully!

Tissues: Student will raise their hand and wait for permission to get a tissue if they are available. Donations of tissues to classes are appreciated!

Food/Drinks/Gum/Candy: Only treats/snacks given by the teacher may be eaten in the classroom. Clear, reusable water bottles (full of water only) will be allowed this year due to the lack of water fountains. Spills must be cleaned immediately, and students must drink with masks still on. **GUM IS NOT ALLOWED.**

Dismissal from class: The teacher usually dismisses students to put away their supplies and to prepare for leaving two to three minutes before the dismissal bell. After supplies are put away, students should be seated and wait for the teacher to dismiss the class.

THE BELL DOES NOT DISMISS STUDENTS.

Classroom Expectations and Discipline Plan

Success in the program depends heavily on self-discipline. The classroom discipline plan enables every student the opportunity to manage his/her behavior. Your child deserves the most positive educational environment possible for learning, as well as having the privilege and responsibility of representing our Orchestra & Aviation Programs, Oslo Middle School, and our community.

Build Relationships

- Be Considerate to Others
- Raise your hand to be called on.
- Look out for each other in the Orchestra and Aviation family and beyond!

Learning Centered

- Be seated on time, ready to learn with a charged computer and pencil.
- Take care of your supplies.
- Keep ahead of your assignments!

Understand Others

- Listen and follow all the instructions.
- Be kind to others by looking out for one another.
- Be a good listener and show positive support.

Excel in all you do

- Always practice good citizenship in all aspects of the class, including posture, attentiveness, and performance
- Stay focused and always give your best effort, 110+!!!

Behavior Concerns: (According to School Policy) (excessive disruption, food, gum, drink, forgetting materials, general insubordination, etc.) will result in the following:

1st Offense: Verbal Warning, documentation

2nd Offense: Parent Contact, intervention (detention, writing assignment, etc.), documentation.

3rd Offense: Office Referral (defiance, other)

Dress code, defiance, and/or other major incidents will result in immediate office referral.

Digital Citizenship: the expectation that the student makes his or her best effort to participate in virtual activities and assignments. This means:

- Students will be expected to turn in digital assignments via the instructions given. Every assignment format will be reviewed and practiced in class at the start of the school year, and review will be given if any new/infrequent assignment formats are used. **Long story short: Always follow the instructions to Canvas assignments.**
- Although social networks can be an extremely useful tool for communication, they can sometimes cast a negative and often inaccurate light on individuals and organizations. Orchestra students are expected to refrain from posting any information on “Facebook,” “Instagram,” or any comparable sites or blogs that may cast discredit on the Orchestra or its members. Infractions may result in administrative disciplinary consequences. **Long Story Short: Think carefully of the potential consequences before posting anything on social media.**
- **THE SCHOOL/DISTRICT/STATE Policy concerning cell phones will be applied in the classroom. Cell phones are to be OFF and put away/not visible. The first infraction will result in ODR per SDIRC Code of Conduct and will follow the expectations as outlined therein.**

REQUIRED SUPPLIES: Daily – students will need their laptop charged and ready to go!

CHEWING GUM: Chewing gum is not allowed in the classroom. Failure to throw away gum properly may result in disciplinary action.

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY: Every student is responsible for the care of music and school property. Defacing, theft, or destruction will become the responsibility of the child and/or parent or guardian to thoroughly clean, repair, or replace the items affected. This includes writing on school-owned music stands!



GRADING SYSTEM: *Quarterly Grades will be determined from the following criteria:*

DPE Assessments – Major Tests – Multiple Units	40%
Stage Checks – Module Quizzes and assignments	30%
Professionalism – Classroom assignments and standards	20%
Home Study – Homework and other assignments	10%

Grade weighting is subject to change after grading periods finish.

FUNDRAISERS: Music and Aviation programs depend on funding from the state and the school districts. Unfortunately, this funding is not enough to support a superior music and our Aviation program. Therefore, students in the Music Department and the Intro to Aviation course are encouraged to participate in the Music Department Fundraiser(s) so we can provide students with the aviation and classroom supplies and equipment needed for the best experience. A donation given to the Orchestra and Aviation Booster (OPUS), is appreciated if not participating in the fundraisers. Make checks payable to OPUS.

Trips: There are times when trips or other outside activities may be possible for the Intro to Aviation Students. All SDIRC policies and procedures apply to students, chaperones, and participants. Participation in certain activities is voluntary and when not sponsored specifically by SDIRC is at the discretion of parents/guardians and the sponsoring organization. An example of this would be EAA Young Eagles or Civil Air Patrol activities. Students are encouraged to explore the options and opportunities that are available through the community. Young Eagles for the local Vero Beach Airport will take place on September 27 and on other dates throughout the year. For more information, please contact the EAA99 Chapter.

Young Eagles Dates: 9/27, 11/8, 12/13, 2/7, 6/13, 6/20. Vero Beach Airshow – May 14 to 17, 2026

2025-2026
OSLO MIDDLE SCHOOL
AVIATION HANDBOOK SIGNATURE PAGE

Student Name: _____ Student ID: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Parent's primary or cell phone _____ Work Phone: _____

Parent email (print legibly, please): _____

What is the best way to contact you? _____

PLEASE PRINT CAREFULLY

Parent/Guardian email address _____

Student email address _____

To the parents, guardians, and music students at OMS.

The Digital Copy of the Oslo Middle School Aviation Handbook is available online at www.gotstrings.org or by requesting in writing (email or letter) a printed copy.

Parents/Guardians and students are ***required to sign and return this page***. Please understand ***how particularly important*** it is to be aware of all the expectations and requirements as a member of the orchestra program, so your child may have an enjoyable, enriching, and successful experience in music.

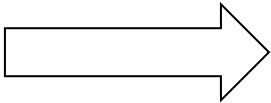
These signatures verify that the parent or guardian and student have read the Aviation handbook and understand their responsibilities in being a valued member of the OMS Aviation Class.



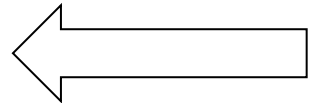
REQUIRED: Student's signature _____



REQUIRED: Parent or Guardian's signature _____



PLEASE RETURN BY AUGUST 15, 2025



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