

Odyssey of the Mind

Information Night

What is Odyssey of the Mind? For more than 25 years, the Odyssey of the Mind (OM) program has been demonstrating that creativity can be taught, stimulated and improved with practice, just like any other skill. In the program, students use their artistic, theatrical and engineering skills to create new solutions to intriguing problems. Students learn to “think outside the box” and develop valuable skills that will be essential for success in the 21st Century. And they do it as a team, learning invaluable teamwork skills.

How do we run the OM program at Bells Mill? Bells Mill has a strong Odyssey of the Mind program, sending several teams to the Maryland State Finals and World Finals each year. Teams of students from grades 1-5 meet weekly from fall to mid-spring under the supervision of trained parent coaches. Cost is minimal, but parent assistance is required given that OM is an entirely volunteer program. We need coaches to lead teams and volunteers to help support the teams, with ample guidance from the OM program. Most meetings will be held on Friday afternoons at BMES. The BMES OM program is directed by Dominic and Trudi Benford, Bells Mill parents in their fourth year leading OM who successfully coached a third grade team to World Finals last year.

Interested in joining a Bells Mill team? A mandatory informational meeting for interested parents/guardians will be held on **Wednesday, Sept. 17, from 7:30-8:30 pm in the APR**. Parents of previous participants in the program should plan to attend.

Save the Date!
Wednesday, Sept. 17
7:30-8:30 pm
APR, Bells Mill

