

WELCOME WHEELER!



Dear Oak Ridge Families,

Over the past couple of years, our Special Education students have enjoyed visits from various therapy dogs in our area. The Oak Ridge Team, and the District, have seen the benefit therapy dogs have provided to our students in terms of emotional and behavioral regulation. As a result, the District applied for a grant to be able to purchase our own SASD facility dog, who will be available to all students at Oak Ridge and SAHS. We are excited to announce that after a year of conversation, interviews, applications, and dog pairing we have met the perfect match to join our Souderton family.

Wheeler, a two-year-old Goldendoodle, will begin his new role as a facility dog at both Oak Ridge and SAHS in the upcoming weeks. Wheeler is named after Zach Wheeler, our very own Phillies pitcher, who generously donated funds for Paws and Affection to purchase him for training.

Wheeler has two handlers at Oak Ridge, the Emotional Support teachers: Emily Marzewski and Leah Lo. He will be at Oak Ridge 2-3 days per week and all students will have many opportunities to interact with him.

We are excited to see how Wheeler will enrich our Oak Ridge community and benefit our students and staff. We understand that some children may be fearful, so please let your child's teacher know if you would not like your child to interact with Wheeler.

If you have any questions about Wheeler or his role at Oak Ridge, feel free to reach out to his handlers, Leah or Emily, at the email addresses below.

Leah Lo- LLo@soudertonsd.org
Emily Marzewski- EMarzewski@soudertonsd.org

