

# Readers Are Leaders

The OBES Counselors team up with the WSHS Varsity Boys' Baseball and Girls' Soccer teams in a program called Readers Are Leaders (RAL). This program brings the varsity athletes to our school once a week to mentor and read with our students. The goals of the program are to increase our students' love and excitement for reading and increase time spent reading.



The heart of the program is built upon a commitment to service. We hope to develop our students as readers today so that they can become contributing citizens and leaders tomorrow. The high school students serve as mentors and role models. Hopefully this shared experience will plant the seeds of a life-long commitment to service and responsibility for both the young readers and student athletes.

During our weekly RAL sessions, each OBES student is paired up with a varsity athlete and will meet with that same buddy every week. Backpacks, bookmarks, and many wonderful books and prizes are donated to us from the RAL program free of charge.

## GO VIKINGS!

**One of the best parts of RAL is when our kids go cheer on their buddies at the baseball and soccer games! Students stay after school, we have dinner together, and then we attend the games as a group. So much fun!**

