



National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform

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The National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform is excited to announce a partnership with Emerald Owl Productions (EOP), a professional laser show, lighting, sound, and entertainment company. They specialize in building connections at middle-grades schools by providing epic events. The concept and vision of the EOP Experience were created in 2001 by middle school students as a way to help people just after the September 11th terrorist attacks.

We chose to partner with Emerald Owl Productions for several reasons:

- 1. *The EOP Experience! Unforgettable Intangibles + Data-Driven Results = The EOP Experience!*** Educators understand that the intangibles at a school are often what make it a special place. Emerald Owl Productions provides a fun, age appropriate, hands-on experience that creates a meaningful memory for students. Too often, we hear people say that they wish they had more positive memories from their middle school years. EOP's many 5 star reviews indicate that partnering with them helps boost those good experiences.
- 2. *Schools to Watch:*** We know that our Schools to Watch schools and those interested in pursuing a STW designation, always want to increase student leadership opportunities. Emerald Owl has developed a curriculum that gives students a chance to play an active role in the planning of an event. This gets kids involved in something meaningful for their school while they learn valuable leadership skills and real-life lessons that will benefit them for years to come. It is so important for kids to feel they belong to something. EOP leadership opportunities are a great way for students who may not be inclined to join clubs or other activities to build a deeper connection with their school community as they see their efforts make an impact. EOP also offers an educational component on how lasers and UV lights work, as well as how a small business operates, which is a perfect fit for STEM and business education.
- 3. *Connects with nearly all students:*** The EOP Experience uses technology and interactive fun to bring your school together. Their events are structured and get kids off their devices for a few hours. The provided activities will reach and connect with a wide range of students.
- 4. *Opportunities for Staff:*** The EOP experience lets staff members have fun, enjoy bonding time with students outside the classroom, and even get some incentives themselves. For example, Emerald Owl formed a partnership with an upscale Bed & Breakfast in Asheville, NC, so teachers could win a memorable getaway. EOP offers a wide variety of incentives that will appeal to a multitude of students and staff members.
- 5. *Fundraising:*** Emerald Owl Productions offers a unique, data tested, and financially risk free fundraising model. The EOP experience can be used to generate money for your school or for a selected charitable cause, which is part of service learning!!!

Feedback from schools who worked with Emerald Owl Productions shows they are professional and their experience helps build a new tradition that students, staff, and parents will look forward to each year. Their reasonable fee structure offers a risk-free opportunity to partner with them to create a truly memorable experience for *your* students and staff.

If you have questions, please contact me at 217.469.6299 or erickauskali@middlegradesforum.org

Thank you.



Ericka D. Uskali
Executive Director
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