



MAHTOMEDI
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Paola Otten-Romero



OHA Staff Recognition

April 27, 2026

2025-26

Experience Excellence



Meet Mrs. Romero

Ms. Romero has been a school psychologist for 10 years with the past 3 years at O.H. Anderson.

Previously she worked in Brooklyn Park, MN and Madison, WI.

She is pursuing her Director of Special Education License to continue to grow her leadership.



Lives the Strategic Plan

- ❑ **Helps develop a strong educational system for students with an IEP.**
- ❑ **Teacher Leader for her colleagues at OHA and throughout the district.**
- ❑ **Has word to make sure all students are valued, respected, seen and heard.**

Mission

The mission of the Mahtomedi School District, the diverse Zephyr community setting the standard for academic and personal excellence, is to ensure each student is equipped with a world-class education to lead and thrive in a dynamic world, pursue their passions, and impact their community through learning environments distinguished by

- A foundation of rigorous academics and real-world skills
- A community where each person is valued, respected, seen, and heard
- Innovative instructional practices and exceptional learning opportunities
- A commitment to personal growth and celebrating the success that comes in many forms
- Curiosity, engagement, and joy



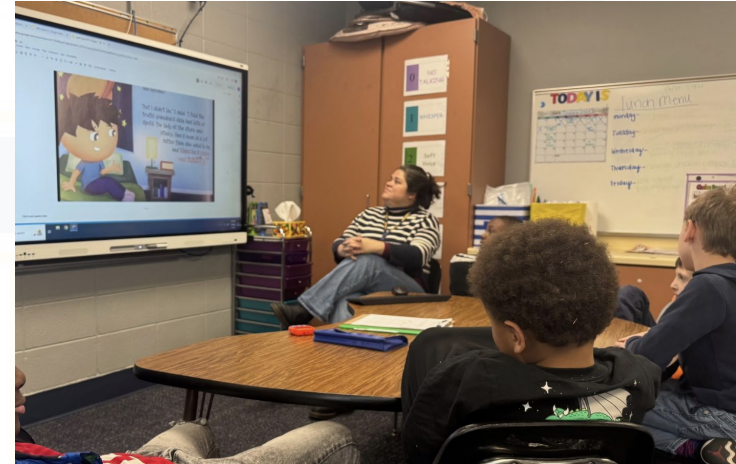
Knowledgeable in Special Education

- ❑ Knows and ensure special education laws, rules and regulations are followed.



Knows our students and is an advocate for them

- ❑ Completed formal assessments on students.
- ❑ Teachers social skills and math groups.
- ❑ Checks in and connects with students during their small groups.
- ❑ Facilitates communication between team members and students to effectively problem solve.



Leader with her Special Education Team

- ❑ **Runs weekly Team Meetings**
- ❑ **Educates team on SPED Updates**
- ❑ **Creates schedules for students, teachers, and paras.**
- ❑ **Supports teachers on interventions and progress monitoring.**



Supports families with clear communication

- ❑ Sends home reports prior to meeting to ensure families have input and processing time.
- ❑ Speaks clearly and effectively to build on student strengths and build student skills when they have weaknesses.



What Students Say about Mrs. Romero!

“She is very helpful with my math.”

- Ollie, 5th Grader



What Colleagues Say about Mrs. Romero!

"As both a coworker and a friend, I've seen firsthand Paola's organization, leadership, and her dedication to make the special education team stronger. She is an incredible school psychologist. Paola consistently goes above and beyond—whether it's supporting student behavior needs or offering guidance wherever it's needed. She inspires me daily with the way she advocates for students and supports her colleagues without hesitation."

-Clancy Adams



"Mrs. Romero is a reliable and efficient leader who is a tremendous asset to our department. She looks at the bigger picture to ensure programming for students is top notch. Beyond just getting the job done, she is always supportive, offering guidance to her team and even taking on extra work herself during high-pressure periods to ensure our collective success."

-Amanda Hudak



What Colleagues say about Mr. Romero!

“Paola is easy to work with, knowledgeable about her building, teammates, and students. She demonstrates strong leadership skills and advocates for what is best for students.”

- **Maija Stellmach, Coordinator of Student Support Services**





Ms. Romero

**Thank you Ms. Romero for
all of your contributions to
O.H. Anderson and the
entire Mahtomedi School
District!**

