

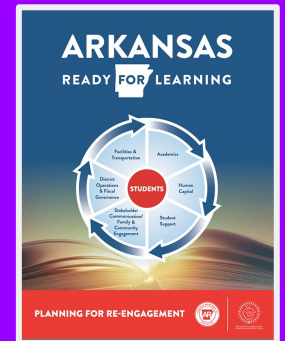


Osceola School District

Ready for Learning- Fall 2021



Updated 10/13/21



School Begins August 16, 2021

Osceola School District continues to work to support students and their families as we advance through the summer months and proceed into the 2021-2022 school year.

Beginning June 1, 2021, student athletes in grades 7-12 returned to campus. They are enjoying preparing for their upcoming seasons. Coaches are successfully working with our student athletes to ensure safety measures are in place (daily screenings, mask wearing as guided by ADH, social distancing when appropriate, cleaning with CDC approved products, supplying their own hydration bottles, etc.).

All school districts in Arkansas are currently operating under the direct guidance of the Arkansas Department of Health and Arkansas Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Under their direction, we are pleased to announce that teachers have been participating in professional learning and students will begin the 2021-2022 school year as scheduled on August 16, 2021.



Will masks be optional?

No, currently, Governor Hutchinson has lifted all mask mandates. However, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) recommends all individuals under the age of 12 wear a face covering when in public settings. As a district, students and adults will wear masks. The district has provided masks and we will have the 3 ply disposable masks available on campus as well.

Ultimately, Osceola School District will follow the CDC and ADH guidance given concerning mask wearing on August 16, 2021.



**Masks
Mandated**



What will a typical school day look like on campus?

Osceola School District's goal is to provide as "typical" of a school day situation for students returning to school as we can. We will put procedures in place to encourage and promote social distancing during class transitions: changing classes, traveling in hallways, standing in line in the cafeteria, playtime during recess, standing in bus lines, etc. Social distancing will be observed as much as feasibly possible, but at times students will be closer than the recommended 3 feet and/or 6 feet. Face coverings will be recommended to promote the health and safety of students, especially during times of transition.

Classroom spaces do not allow for 6 feet of physical distance between students, but teachers will arrange seating to create as much physical distancing as possible.

Students will attend their typical classroom schedules. Our plan is to follow a traditional weekly schedule Monday- Friday.



K-6 Recess Time: How will this look?

PreK- 6th grade students will still be provided recess time/outdoor play time. Playground equipment will be sanitized regularly. Students will be instructed to create physical distance when playing - run, climb, swing, etc. We realize that during play time, children may not be able to maintain 6 feet of social distance, but increasing physical distance will be encouraged. Again, mask wearing will be encouraged to promote the health and safety of students.



Will students eat in the cafeteria? Use water fountains?

Grades K - 12 will be offered breakfast in the cafeteria each morning and a second chance breakfast after athletic periods (grab and go style). We will continue to monitor ADH guidance concerning large venue areas (cafeterias). We are preparing schedules that will reduce the number of students in the cafeteria at one time. We are also making plans to space seating so that more physical space is provided between tables when students are eating in cafeteria. Social distancing will be encouraged when standing in cafeteria lines. Taher, our new food management company, is preparing to ensure that sanitation/proper CDC approved cleaning procedures are in place.

Procedures for frequent cleaning of water fountains will be in place. To help maximize health/safety of students, **Osceola School District is asking all students to have a clear water bottle.** The district has purchased filling stations that will be placed on multiple water fountains on campus. Students are encouraged to clean their bottle each night, fill with water, and bring to school to use as needed. Athletes may bring additional water containers for athletic periods/practice.



What special precautions will be used to ensure proper cleaning?

Osceola School District, since the beginning of COVID-19, has focused on ensuring that CDC approved proper sanitation/cleaning procedures and practices are in place. The health and safety of students and adults is a top priority for our district. This will continue as we reopen school in the fall.

In support of healthy practices, classrooms and other spaces, we will be stocked with CDC cleaner, towels, wipes, gloves, and masks for intermittent cleaning that teachers/coaches/staff must ensure takes place (examples: table tops after pulling a reading group, door handles, weight equipment, etc.) throughout the day.

Our cleaning company, ABBCO is prepared to continuously monitor restrooms, high-touch areas, etc. throughout the school day. The district will use disinfectant foggers to sanitize large spaces such as buses, auditoriums, gyms, etc.

Students and staff will be encouraged to wash hands frequently and use hand-sanitizer throughout the day.



What happens if a student comes to school sick?

If a student comes to school sick, the school nurse will screen the student and check their temperature. If temperature is over the ADH guidance, the student will be sent home and will need to be fever free for 24 hours without medication before returning to school. When the child returns to school they will check in with the school nurse.



Please remember, students should not attend school with fever reducing medicine. Students should be Fever-Free when attending school.



How will my student “catch-up” academically?

We realize that students have experienced learning loss due to limited face to face classroom instruction. Our building and district level curriculum specialists/facilitators have been working with classroom teachers and will continue to work throughout the year to ensure that lessons are planned to incorporate additional time for reviewing missed instruction and intervention. When students return in the fall, they will be assessed using diagnostic assessments, that will inform teachers of what level students are currently performing on and what interventions students need to fill in learning loss. Those needs will be addressed in classrooms and intervention periods.

Throughout the year, parents/guardians can help students prepare for school by reviewing math facts and reading 10-20 minutes daily. These two simple activities can make a great impact on students’ readiness for classroom learning.



Will our students have the same arrival and dismissal time?

The school day at each campus is being adjusted by 5-10 minutes. Specific arrival and dismissal times will be shared at Open House. Please monitor the school website (www.osd1.org), social media (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram), and REMIND alerts for dates/times.

In the event the number of students allowed to ride a bus is limited by ADH/CDC/DESE, extended arrival and dismissal times will be communicated with parents/guardians.



What support will be available for students with special services?

Osceola School District will be prepared to support all learners.

Special precautions will be in place in special needs' classrooms, such as more frequent sanitizing/cleaning, additional mask wearing, more specific physical distancing requirements, etc.

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What does blended learning look like?

Upon reflection from students, staff, parents/families, and administrators, we have developed a plan for “blended-learning” if we are faced with additional school closures in the 21/22 school year.

Summary of those plans:

- Students in K-12 will take their Chromebooks or tablet home for access to live and downloaded instruction.
- Additional Wifi access will be added to all school parking lots.
- Paper copies of instructional materials will be available at all campuses by teacher/course, with frequent 24 hour pick-up/drop off.
- Instruction will consist of what is currently being used in the classroom. For example, students in Grades K-6 use I-Ready Math curriculum. If school is closed, students will continue lessons in I-Ready Math Curriculum.



What systems of support will be used in a blended learning environment?

- Clever and the online curriculum portals will serve as our Learning Management Systems. Teachers will issue grades for assignments. Parents will be able to view grades in HAC.
- GoGuardian will be used to monitor all Chromebook activity. This is a new feature for Osceola and this program allows us to manage Chromebook activity regardless of location of the devices.
- When students are served onsite, teachers will practice with students using the LMS to ensure they are prepared if faced with future intermittent closures.
- AMI Days will not be used in the 21/22 school year. Blended Learning will be used instead to ensure a continuation of learning.
- This approach will also allow students who might be ill or quarantined for a limited amount of time to continue their education even if they are not physically present in the classroom.



New Things Happening at Osceola School District 21/22

1. Osceola School District have implemented academic interventionist a new ROLE. To increase the number of students that are achieving on grade level and to build confident learners by filling in the learning gaps that are present.
2. We are excited to announce several security upgrades to all of our campuses. Student and Teacher safety are critical in ensuring that their fundamental needs are met.
3. We have added an anonymous Bullying hotline through STOP It app messenger. (More Details coming soon)
4. Mobile wi-fi hotspots have been added to the district for checkout to ensure that students are able to access assignments
5. There has been an adoption of new resources for Tier I instruction for Science and Social Studies in K-8th.



Questions/Concerns/Helpful Thoughts to Share

Parents/Guardians of Osceola School District Students,

We realize that as you look forward to August 16, 2021, you are sending us your most valued person to educate - your student. We are working diligently behind the scenes to make sure we are prepared to protect and educate your student during the 21/22 school year. Osceola Community has shown great support to the Osceola School District teachers/staff/administration throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. We believe in this saying “I can do things you cannot. You can do things I cannot, but together we can do Great Things! As a team, we can achieve great things for kids! Kids can meet their academic potential in a safe environment, and feel confident as learners and as students when we all work together.

If you have concerns, comments, questions, and/or helpful thoughts to share, please feel free to email me at tgreen@osd1.org. Each response will be read, considered, and shared with our team as we continue to prepare for our “return to school” on August 16, 2021.

Thank you for supporting Osceola School District!
Dr. Toriano Green, Superintendent of Schools 21/22

