

Owego Elementary School
Phillip Schofield, Principal
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Dear Parents and Guardians:

Hello Owego Elementary School families. I am so excited to be the new principal at OES and would like to welcome everyone back for the 2020-2021 school year. As you already are aware, this year is going to look different than years past. However, it is still going to be a year filled with new experiences, new friendships and opportunities for us to all grow together.

We have been challenged with unprecedented circumstances as we prepare for the opening of school. Please rest assured that my number one priority as your building principal is to assure the health and safety for all and provide the best learning experience possible! I would like to take a moment to outline a few of the most frequent concerns for parents regarding our reopening plan. Our first day of school will be **Monday, September 14th**.

Arrival Times & Dismissal Times:

- K, 1st, 3rd, and 5th Grade can arrive between 7:20am and 7:40am - Dismissal will be at 1:30pm
Parents can arrive for pickup at 1:20 pm
- 2nd and 4th Grade can arrive between 8:20am and 8:40am - Dismissal will be at 2:30pm
Parents can arrive for pickup at 2:20pm
- UPK can arrive between 8:20am and 8:40am - Dismissal will be at 1:30pm
Parents can arrive for pickup at 1:20 pm

Students who will be transported by a guardian will be dropped off and picked up using the parent loop only. Please notice there will be new signs and staff to help direct the flow of traffic in and out. Parents will not be allowed to escort children into the building. We ask that you say your good-byes in the vehicle and keep the flow of traffic moving. We will have adults ready to welcome your child and direct them safely to his or her classroom.

Student Classroom Hours: 7:50 am to 1:30 pm and 8:50 am to 2:30 pm

Parent Pick-Up of Students During Classroom Hours: Please park, come to the Main Entrance. The main office staff will assist with dismissing your child.

If your child is in Pre-K or Kindergarten, please be sure to pin the enclosed tag on him or her for the **first few weeks of school**. Please fill in the bus number on the tag when you receive the information from the bus garage, this will be mailed to you in a separate postcard from the OA Transportation Department. *Please keep in mind, children attending Pre-K must be 4 years old in order to ride the bus.*

Supervised Area (Sibling coverage):

If you have multiple children at staggered start times, we will have a supervised area for families who would like to bring their children in at the same time. This supervised area will be available from 7:30 to 8:30am and also from 1:30

to 2:30pm. This will allow your children to travel to and from school together. If you need to utilize this sibling coverage, please notify my office as well as transportation if you are utilizing school transportation.

Instruction:

We will be providing students with an in-person and virtual option for instruction. You will probably notice much more of your child's instruction will be done electronically. You can expect the teachers to be introducing students to new technologies and protocols related to how they are going to be learning before they dive into traditional curriculum. All students will be expected to show up and follow the teacher's instructions. We will be taking attendance for both virtual and in-person students. My expectation is that students in-person and virtually, will be present and give their best effort.

I'd also like to take a moment to explain some COVID safety practices we put in place:

Temperature Checks:

Students will have their temperature taken by a staff member. If a student has a temperature of 100 or higher, they will go to the nurse's office for a more thorough evaluation. If it is deemed necessary by the nurse, parents and guardians may be notified to pick up their child. Additionally, wellness checks by students/parents will happen each day. More information on that process will be forthcoming.

Hand Washing:

Teachers will be helping students with proper handwashing procedures. Hand washing will be built into the daily routine multiple times throughout the day for every student.

Social Distancing /Masks:

Our expectation is students will keep 6ft apart and wear masks. Teachers will provide mask breaks throughout the day. These mask breaks will be at the discretion of the teacher to ensure distance and the situation is appropriate to do so safely.

Visitors:

In order to limit exposure, no unnecessary visitors will be allowed in the building.

Water Bottles:

We are requesting that all students bring their own water bottle each day. This should be labeled with their name. Students will have access to these bottles throughout the day as needed.

If you have more questions, you can visit the OA District web page and APP. There you can find the most up to date information concerning our school opening and events. Please do your best to update any and all contact information. As always, you can contact me via email or call my office if you have any questions. I appreciate your time and for allowing me the privilege to be your son or daughter's principal.

Sincerely,

Phil Schofield

Phil Schofield
OES Principal