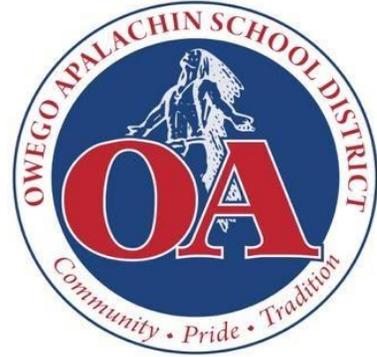


**Owego Apalachin Middle School
Owego Free Academy
Kenneth W. Francisco Jr.
Executive Principal
3 Sheldon Guile Blvd.
Owego, NY 13827
607-687-7301 x 1
email: franciscok@oacsd.org**



August 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian and OFA & OAMS Student:

On behalf of the staff at Owego Free Academy and Owego Apalachin Middle School, I would like to welcome the students back to school. We hope that you had a wonderful and relaxing summer vacation and that you are now beginning to get excited for the 2020-2021 school year. We are looking forward to the start of the new school year and hope that this year is one full of many successes for every student.

We can agree that 2020 continues to be an interesting year that has offered many challenges, but also offers greater opportunities for us to come together as a community. I hope that all of you are doing well and are ready to embrace this new way of implementing educational practices.

The first day of school is Monday, September 14 for all students.

Schedules

The Owego Apalachin CSD Reopening Plan is an extremely detailed document, and we would encourage all families and staff to review it in its entirety. Please visit <https://www.oacsd.org> to view our plan. Part of the plan deals with the different schedules students will follow. For our 6th graders, students will be in school every day and their day will start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. Our 7th - 12th grade students, will be following a hybrid schedule as follows:

7th-12th Grade Schedule

Monday - **Red** in-person; **Blue** Virtual

Tuesday - **Blue** in-person, **Red** Virtual

Wednesday - All Students are Virtual - Following a modified schedule (Schedule will be coming out soon)

Thursday - **Red** in-person; **Blue** Virtual

Friday - **Blue** in-person; **Red** Virtual

7th Grade Schedule

Period 1: 8:30am-9:15am Virtual (at home)
Period 2: 9:15am-10:00am Virtual (at home)
Travel to School- 10:00am-11:00am
Period 3: 11:00am-11:45am Hybrid
Period 4: 11:50am-12:35pm Hybrid
Period 5: 12:40pm-1:10pm Lunch
Period 6: 1:10pm-1:55pm Hybrid
Period 7: 2:00pm-2:45pm Hybrid
Period 8: 2:50pm-3:35pm Hybrid

8th Grade Schedule

Period 1: 8:30am-9:15am Virtual (at home)
Period 2: 9:15am-10:00am Virtual (at home)
Travel to School- 10:00am-11:00am
Period 3: 11:00am-11:45am Hybrid
Period 4: 11:50am-12:35pm Hybrid
Period 5: 12:40pm-1:25pm Hybrid
Period 6: 1:25pm-1:55pm Lunch
Period 7: 2:00pm-2:45pm Hybrid
Period 8: 2:50pm-3:35pm Hybrid

9th and 10th Grade Schedule

Period 1: 8:30am-9:15am Virtual (at home)
Period 2: 9:15am-10:00am Virtual (at home)
Travel to School- 10:00am-11:00am
Period 3: 11:00am-11:45am Hybrid
Period 4: 11:50am-12:35pm Hybrid
Period 5: 12:40pm-1:25pm Hybrid
Period 6: 1:25pm-1:55pm Lunch
Period 7: 2:00pm-2:45pm Hybrid
Period 8: 2:50pm-3:35pm Hybrid

11th and 12th Grade Schedule

Period 1: 8:30am-9:15am Virtual (at home)
Period 2: 9:15am-10:00am Virtual (at home)
Travel to School- 10:00am-11:00am
Period 3: 11:00am-11:45am Hybrid
Period 4: 11:50am-12:35pm Hybrid
Period 5: 12:40pm-1:10pm Lunch
Period 6: 1:10pm-1:55pm Hybrid
Period 7: 2:00pm-2:45pm Hybrid
Period 8: 2:50pm-3:35pm Hybrid

All students (*grade 7-12*) will begin their day virtually at home. On the days students are coming to school, in person classes will begin at 11:00 a.m. and the day will end at 3:35 p.m. Your student's schedule of courses and also the color that they are assigned for the year will be delivered via US Mail shortly and you can also access their schedule via E-School Home Access and Schoology on or after Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

6th Grade Schedule – in school every day

Homeroom: 8:30-9:20 a.m.
Instructional Block 1: 9:25-10:05 a.m.
Instructional Block 2: 10:10-10:50 a.m.
Lunch: 10:50-11:20 a.m.
Instructional Block 3: 11:25-12:05 p.m.
Instructional Block 4: 12:10-12:50 p.m.
Instructional Block 5: 12:55-1:30 p.m.
Instructional Block 6: 1:32-2:07
GOAL Time: 2:10- 2:25 p.m.

Student Arrival at School

Students riding a bus to school will be dropped off in front of OAMS. Students who will be dropped off or driving themselves to school will need to come through the main entrance at OFA. Student parking will be located in the OFA student lot by the island. When your student arrives at school, they will need to have their temperature checked each day when they walk into school. Parents will also need to fill out questions on the School Pass app every day. Students will then go to their classroom for instruction, there will be no gatherings of students in the lobby or in the hallways.

Classrooms/Hallways

All of our classrooms have been set up based on the social distance guidelines required by NYS. Students will need to follow all social distance guidelines in the classrooms and in the hallways. Hallways will be split down the middle and students will be asked to walk on the right side at all times and stay socially distanced while moving from class to class.

Masks

All students and staff will be required to wear a mask at school covering their mouth and nose. Teachers will be giving periodic mask breaks to the students each day.

Breakfast & Lunch

All students will have an opportunity to get breakfast and lunch at school. For all 6th – 8th students, breakfast is free and each student will be able to grab their breakfast as they head to their classroom from the cafeteria. For all 9th – 12th grade students, they will be able to purchase a breakfast in the OFA cafeteria to take to their classroom. All 6th-12th grade students will be able to purchase a lunch and will be eating lunch in the OAMS and OFA gymnasiums and cafeteria spaces, following social distance guidelines. No students will be allowed to go off campus to purchase lunches and return back to school.

Dismissal

Students riding a bus home will exit through the OAMS lobby to their bus. Dismissal will be based on the arrival of the bus into the bus loop. Students will be called by their bus number and we ask that they immediately go to their bus. Students who will be picked up, walk or who drove to school will exit through the OFA front doors. All students will be dismissed at the end of the day by an announcement and we will ask that they leave the building immediately.

Dignity for all Students Act (DASA)

The Dignity for All Students Act seeks to provide the State's public elementary and secondary school students with a safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying on school property, a school bus and/or at a school function. If you feel that you are being harassed, please let us know so we can help. Our Dignity for All Students Coordinator at OFA and OAMS is Mr. Francisco. For more information about DASA, please visit the OFA or OAMS webpages that have a link to a brochure that provides greater information about the law.

Students are required to follow the School Board approved Code of Conduct policy. To see the full version of the student Code of Conduct, please go to the following:

- School District's webpage - www.oacsd.org.
- Select the Schools Tab on the upper left hand side of the page.
- Choose the Owego Free Academy tab.
- The link for the Code of Conduct is located in the OFA/OAMS Principal and Assistant Principals' webpages.

The full version of the Code of Conduct will also be located in your student's iPad.

OFA PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students are allowed to use their cell phones and digital devices at OFA. To access the internet using their digital devices in OFA, the students will have to accept the user agreement for the OA open wireless network. By accepting the user agreement, students will be agreeing to use their device in accordance with the Board of Education Digital Device Policy, the OFA Digital Device User Agreement, and the Owego Apalachin Central School District Code of Conduct. Although students can access the internet via the school's wireless network, they are not allowed to use their personal data plans in school to access the internet.

Our policy remains in effect that if a student is requested to put a cell phone or digital device away at any time by a faculty or staff member, they must comply with the request. Additionally, within each classroom the teacher will establish the rules for cell phone and digital device use.

OAMS Cell Phones

OAMS cell phone policy still dictates that students are prohibited to use their cell phones during school hours. We ask that they keep their cell phone off in their backpacks. OAMS students will follow the same cell phone policy established in the code of conduct and followed by each classroom teacher.

In Closing

As we embark on this new and unprecedented journey together, we promise to do our best to provide every student with engaging and meaningful instruction, while building positive relationships in the safest way possible. We thank you for your continued support of our district. We value your support in your child's education and look forward to a productive year. Our first month of school will be slow and deliberate as we teach our students how to be successful in our school this year. Our communication will be organized and forthcoming and our staff will always be here to support you. In the spirit of inspiring, educating and challenging every student, each day, welcome to the new school year!

Sincerely,

Kenneth W Francisco Jr

Kenneth W. Francisco Jr.
Principal