

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OKALOOSA COUNTY

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
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October 2, 2020

mySchool Online Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for your patience, support and feedback during the first weeks of the 2020-2021 school year. This undertaking would not be possible without parents involved in helping our learners navigate the digital world and instructional platforms. We applaud all of your efforts toward ensuring your student is engaged and successful especially at a time when there is so much going on all around us.

We have reached the halfway point of the 1st nine-weeks of school and wanted to provide you with information in case you are considering a return to brick-and-mortar instruction for your child. As mentioned in the call out earlier this week, students have the option to remain in the mySchool Online program *or* return to the school building for the 2nd nine-weeks. No matter which choice you make, we are here to support you.

What mySchool Online Parents Need to Know About Their 2nd Nine-Week Options

OPTION 1: STAYING IN MYSCHOOL ONLINE for the 2nd nine-weeks

Q Do I have to notify anyone if my child is staying in mySchool Online?

A *No action is needed. Students staying in mySchool Online should continue with their coursework under the guidance and direction of the teacher. Those choosing to stay online will be expected to remain there until the end of the first semester in January.*

Q What should parents know about grades in the mySchool Online program that may be an adjustment from what they are used to?

A *Grades for mySchool online coursework are awarded by semester. That means those staying in mySchool Online will not receive a “traditional” report card until the end of the 2nd nine-weeks. You can, however, track your child’s progress and grades regularly in their online courses. Keep in mind that there are two components to your child’s grade: 1) how well they perform on the work they have done, and 2) how much of the work they are completing. Example: Making good grades on the assignments that have been completed but being five weeks behind should be of concern to the parent. Please check with your child’s teacher to make sure you understand both their performance and pacing because both will impact the grade at the end of the semester.*

Secondary mySchool Online students who currently spend some of their day in the building will receive a traditional report card for those courses.

Q Can my child return to brick-and-mortar instruction for part of the day?

A *Yes, this is possible for secondary students, but keep in mind that parents would be responsible for transportation for students attending partial days. Please notify your school and they will work with you to develop a possible schedule.*

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OPTION 2: RETURNING TO CAMPUS for the 2nd nine-weeks

- Q When do I have to notify the school if my child is returning to the school building for the 2nd nine-weeks.**
A *If you're child plans to return to school for the second nine weeks, please contact your school by Friday, October 9th to let them know. Those who do not notify the school by October 9th are expected to remain online until the end of the first semester in January.*
- Q When does the 2nd nine-weeks begin?**
A *The first day of the 2nd nine-weeks is Tuesday, November 3rd.*
- Q Will my student keep their same teacher(s) when they return to the building for classes?**
A *It depends. If a large number of students return to the school building, online teachers would also return, and they may be paired together. However, it is likely that students will be assigned to a different teacher in many cases.*
- Q Can my child return to brick and mortar for part of the day?**
A *Yes, this is possible for secondary students, but keep in mind that parents would be responsible for transportation for students attending partial days. Please notify your school and they will work with you to develop a possible schedule.*
- Q How will my child's grades be transferred into the school building?**
A *Students returning to the school building will receive a traditional report card at the end of the 1st nine-weeks. The grades on the report card will be transferred from either the Edgenuity or Accelerate platform depending on the student's grade level. **To ensure the best possible grade transfer, returning students should focus on completing 50% of each course by the end of the first nine-weeks in addition to doing as well as they can on all assignments and tests.** Doing poorly on work and being behind pace both have a negative impact on a student's grade. For more detailed information on how grades in Edgenuity or Accelerate are calculated, contact your child's teacher or your school's mySchool Online administrator.*
- Q Where can I see information about COVID cases in my child's school or other COVID-related information?**
A *A COVID dashboard will be available on our website at the beginning of next week that will show weekly results by school as well as overall district totals from the beginning of the year. Visit www.okaloosaschools.com to review this and other information. Contact your school for more information.*
- Q Has there been any change in mask requirements?**
A *Not at this time. Masks are strongly encouraged everywhere social distancing cannot be maintained. Masks are required on school buses.*
- Q Where can I find out about a bus stop for my child?**
A *Your school can help with that information.*
- Q What if I have more questions?**
A *Please contact your school with specific questions about returning.*

We hope to provide you with all of the information that you need to make an informed decision about whether to return to the school building in November, and we are committed to supporting our students and families whichever choice is made.

Thank you so much!

Marcus Chambers