

Good Afternoon,

We are happy to say that week three has gone well at OSMS. Even in the hybrid model, we have been able to develop relationships with the students and begin instruction and learning. The students now know the safety protocols and continue to do an excellent job following them. These are all positive steps as we move forward planning for a full return on October 5th. As we learn new technology, schedules, and daily activities, we continue to need to adjust some aspects of our processes. Please see the updates and reminders below.

- **If a teacher is absent**, they will email the students or update their google classroom and let them know they will be out. The students will find independent work for that class in the google classroom. The students should still attend homeroom and their other classes in google meet but **there will not be a google meet for the class** where the teacher is absent. Unfortunately, to protect student privacy, substitutes do not have access to google classrooms and meets so it's just not possible.
- Distance learning schedules are tricky. The teachers are doing their best to be in google meets on time, but occasionally they are held up because of technology issues or as they move students throughout the building. Teachers will try to provide distance learners with the most accurate time for when they will start the meet, but **please let students know that they should not worry if the teacher is a few minutes late for a meet**. They will be there as soon as possible.
- **Building Independence:** It can be very tempting to help students with classwork or even join classes with your child while they are learning from home, but we strongly encourage you to refrain from over assisting students. We want to develop students' independence and agency. Teachers also need to see what students can do independently. **The best support you can provide your child is encouragement.**
- **Pictures and Videos:** Please respect the privacy of the other students in the classrooms and google meets and **refrain from videotaping or take pictures of google meets.**
- **Free Meals:** Breakfast and lunch are **free for all students** until December 31 or until funding runs out. Place orders for breakfast and lunch through the district website. Just go to the fork/knife on the right of the screen. Scroll down to the MS link. The directions are posted to help you through the process if you need them. It will save you time and money!
- Next week, **Cohort One will be in school Monday and Tuesday. All students are distance learning on Wednesday.** Students will follow their regular schedule Wednesday. **Cohort Two will be in school on Thursday and Friday** while Cohort One is in distance learning. Students should be logging into each class on the days they are learning from home.

- **Picture Day** has been postponed until further notice to limit students' exposure to outside guests.
- **We have begun practicing safety drills** in small groups by grade level and cohort. We are moving kids out of the building for fire drills while maintaining social distance Drills will continue next week.
- Some classes have had the chance to eat their lunches outside on their yoga mats, picnic style. School is different, but we are all making the best of it.



Enjoy the weekend,

-Krista & Matt