

OCS REOPENING QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

General

1. What is the current reopening timeline for staff and for families?
 - o At this time, all staff is required to return to campus by November 30, 2020. This will provide them one week to prepare their classrooms, or support services needed for the return of K-8 students on December 7, 2020.
 - o K-8 students whose parents have chosen in-person learning in our latest survey will return on December 7, according to schedules developed by their school leadership teams.
 - o The Board has postponed its monthly meeting from Wednesday, November 18 to Monday, November 23, at which time it will review state health and wellness metrics, any pronouncements by the Governor and DPH, and the approved OCS reopening health and wellness metrics. A final decision on school reopening on December 7 will occur at that time, allowing a two-week window for our families to prepare should OCS reopen on the scheduled date.

Academic

2. Regarding the K-2 devices - how are those to be distributed? If they are intended to be distributed next week, that will be the third week in a row that the K families will need to make an appearance on campus for some requirement (beep and greet, health screenings, and now laptops). It seems the community as a whole would be better served having such things align so that there aren't as many folks traipsing through campus to collect things.
 - o Thank you for your suggestion. School leadership works hard to coordinate its activities and events. We received a surprise shipment of K-2 tablets and wanted to issue them as quickly as possible so that our youngest students could have age-appropriate technology available to them. We apologize for any inconvenience.
3. What spaces on campus are going to be utilized for virtual cafes? How many students can you allow in such spaces? Will you really have room for everyone who wants or needs to stay given the current responses? If not, how do you plan to determine who has a space and who doesn't?
 - o Virtual cafes can be set up in larger spaces, as a cafeteria, or in classrooms that would not be used on a daily basis for in person instruction. These spaces will be defined as soon as we receive parent feedback from the latest survey so we know the demand for virtual cafe services, and how many classrooms will be available in each building, once in-person students are assigned to their classrooms. The goal is to use different spaces for these different set-ups.
 - o Regarding the second question, we will assess this potential issue once we have responses from our parents and assess the true demand for afternoon virtual cafes.

4. Regarding the adjusted schedule for those students who are at home and zooming in the afternoon - how will the children be able to work on asynchronous work in the morning before any review of the materials traditionally reinforced with the asynchronous work?
 - o Students will not be asked to cover material before they are taught in-person or synchronously.
 - o Students will be able to complete specials coursework that is independent of the work from their homeroom teacher. They will then be able to use the time post zoom or the following morning to continue working on materials prior to their next zoom meeting.

5. Regarding the teaching staff doing twice as much work given that they are teaching the material in two different formats - have the teachers been asked how much additional prep time they will need to have digital and physical materials ready? Has that time been built in to the adjusted schedule or will families still be receiving communications from the teachers during non-working hours including 10 or 11 weeknights and at some point on weekends, which seems incredibly unfair and beyond what they are paid to do?
 - o Teachers should be thinking about how to reach students within one lesson plan. Just how teachers differentiate instruction in the classroom, teachers will have similar structures for the in-person vs. online learners. Training has been offered to staff on various tech tools that will help online students manipulate materials similar to their in-person peers.
 - o Teachers choose to respond and work outside of their duty day based on their personal schedules. At OCS, we recommend that teachers respond to families within 48 hours of the original communication.

6. Regarding a potentially sick student - how will the student be transported from the isolation room to the guardians care? What happens if no one can collect the student in the "required" hour because they are at work and work more than an hour away?
 - o The student will remain in the nurse's office isolation space until pick-up. Once the parent/guardian or identified adult arrives for pickup the student will be escorted by the nurse to them. Most of the nurse's offices are in close proximity to the main entrance or a main access door. (Buildings 20,21,23- nurse's offices are all in the main entrance area. Building 22 the nurse's office is in close proximity to a door on the front of the school building.) Students will need to be picked up as soon as possible. Families should work to meet the 1 hour expectation. While a student is maintained in isolation the nurse's are restricting all other students and staff from the nurse's office. Many students require daily nursing care during the school day. In this aspect, community support is of key importance.

7. Regarding positive cases on campus - at what point does a case in a building call for a closure i.e. with the intermediate and high school levels traveling between classrooms will the potential hallway contact call for a closure more often than in the lower school where teachers are moving between classrooms?
 - o The High School will reopen after the Elementary and Middle Schools open, and thus we would not have HS students using the Middle School buildings. HS teachers will move their personal belongings from the MS allowing teachers

using Intermediate School classrooms to also move, avoiding any student cross traffic between classes..

- o Regarding closures, each positive case will be reviewed directly with Delaware Public Health and their Epidemiologist. The need for, and length of a closure will be determined through this process. As soon as a case is confirmed, our nursing staff contacts DPH, the case is reviewed and direct recommendations are given. This process includes contact tracing. Required information will then be communicated to our entire community.
 - o Hallway traffic in all buildings will be, in most cases unidirectional, eliminating students crossing each other in our narrow hallways. Short distances of bidirectional traffic may be required at the end of some hallways in the Middle and High school buildings.
8. Also, how much potential is there for increased need to isolate or quarantine an entire classroom based on the 48-72 hour window for test results? Is there a procedure in place to have an entire classroom isolate until a negative test is received? It was stated that the building will be notified of a positive case, but would the families in the individual affected classroom receive a separate more specific notification?
- o Once a positive case is identified, the nursing staff will reach out to DPH and begin contact tracing. The contact tracing process will identify the need for isolation of students and staff. This information will be communicated with staff and families that positive case(s) is/are confirmed, and in which building it/they have occurred, If there is a risk or need for additional interventions for staff or students they will be notified by the school or/and DPH. Once again, the responses/communications will be tailored to the occurrence.
9. Regarding positive case families - are those students expected to temporarily flip to Cohort C while quarantined/isolated? Will there still be a space in their cohort when they have been medically cleared?
- o Students/Staff who test positive for Covid-19 and are required to quarantine. If someone is determined to have been a close contact, they would need to isolate. These students in both the quarantine and isolation process would move to Cohort C. After the quarantine/isolation period is over they would return to their established hybrid cohort.
10. Regarding before/after care - I know the Board specifically sent the committees back to see if this could be configured, but in the event that it cannot, what will the school do for students who need to return to campus for services such as speech, OT, PT, etc but will not have transportation both directions because of the time of dismissal?
- o Should such services be required, the school has two vans that are usually used for sports in the afternoons, and which could be used for such transportation needs. Furthermore, OCS still has a contract with First Student and can explore how to leverage the total fleet at its disposal to ensure adequate transportation for our students. Such services need to be discussed when needs are confirmed.
 - o Our therapists are doing their best to arrange therapy groups while students are on campus to help eliminate this need.
11. Regarding switching from remote to hybrid - when will the timelines be worked out? What happens if you have more families requesting to come back to campus than are

allotted? Do the newly requesting families get waitlisted for a spot from a family that decided to switch to full remote learning?

- o K-8 is returning to hybrid in-person learning on 12/7, while grades 9-12 are currently scheduled to return on 2/2/21. Administration is analyzing how to expedite their return to early January.
- o Given state defined social distancing parameters the maximum student density we can serve at any point in time is 50% of room capacities. Based on the initial survey, we did not anticipate 100% of families interested in returning at this time. To avoid reaching this threshold, and in response to parent preferences we have implemented a schedule that allows us to serve these students in two cohorts. The follow-up commitment survey has verified the need for two cohorts that will host under 50% of our students at a time and therefore cover the desire of any student who wishes to return on campus.

12. I want my 3rd grader to go to school. My understanding is he will go in for 2 days a week and be in the classroom til around noon. After that, I can pick him up or he can go to a virtual cafe and will be monitored to do asynchronous work. He will need a laptop to continue asynchronously in the cafe. We will not be able to have him bring a device from home. Will teachers provide paper handouts for asynchronous work, or will the school provide devices for students to do their work while at the virtual cafe?

- o For parents that are opting to have their students attend the school's virtual cafes, the IT department will be setting up devices in the designated spaces so students do not have to bring their personal devices from home. For those that choose to do so, the school will offer an open Wi-Fi connection, still behind the state firewall, so that they can also access the internet while doing their work at the cafes.

13. Will the RTI groups receive instruction on-site if the students return? How much assistance will be provided to students during the virtual café?

- o RTI services are currently being defined, and we will share them with our community as soon as they are finalized and approved.
- o Virtual Cafe proctors will be trained in Schoology, and will be able to provide basic facilitation supports, but not necessarily content-specific supports. These supports may look different in each school.

14. What will the hours be when the children return? Are all grades full day on their synchronous and asynchronous days?

- o Four of the five school days are running, with the schedules below. The in-person learning is complemented with synchronous or asynchronous learning.
- o The school hours are as follows:
 - LS: 8:25am - 3:30pm
 - IS: 8:15am - 3:20pm
 - MS: 7:30am - 2:20pm
 - HS: 7:30am - 2:20pm

15. Will there be consideration to siblings for these cohorts, so that they would be in school on the same days?

- o Yes, we will take this into consideration when creating cohorts.

16. Can I opt to have my child stay virtual for the full year?
- o Yes. Please indicate your preference in the surveys when they include the question.

Operations and Other Services

17. What are the Building and PPE measures being taken to ensure a safe environment for staff and students to return to?
- o The school is implementing two custodial crews to ensure that our buildings are kept clean during the day (following CDC and DPH requirements), and then are further cleaned in the evening following the established school cleaning procedures.
 - o Click [here](#) to read about the Bipolar Ionization system installed on all four of OCS' buildings, and about the Bio-Protect spray being used for hard surfaces in buildings.
18. Will nurses be on campus when school reopens in hybrid in-person learning?
- o Yes, we will have a full-time nurse in each building during school days.
19. What are the [safety and well-being protocols](#) bus drivers will be expected to follow on buses?
- o They will be required to wear face masks, and may request a face shield as an added measure of safety, daily disinfecting, utilizing the loudspeaker to remind students about social distancing and keeping their masks on, as well as boarding and leaving the bus. We will send emails to specific buses/ bus stops if needed, after talking to drivers, when students/ families are not social distancing.
20. What are bus sanitization protocols? What is the frequency of the process when school and transportation services restart?
- o A Static Sprayer will be used to disinfect the entire fleet once a month, This is the same product that is being used by the facilities department on hard surfaces at school. It stays on the surface and kills bacteria and viruses. Drivers will also spray down surfaces after every route, i.e. high touched surfaces, all seats used, and handles. 3 sets of windows and the overhead hatch will be left open to ensure adequate ventilation, weather permitting. After that they will be left open at 50%).
21. Will the drivers have extra masks available for students that get on the bus without a mask, or if a mask breaks while on the bus?
- o Yes, each bus will have a box of 25 adult and 25 child masks with extras available in the transportation office.