



Ocean View School District

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March 18, 2021

Dear OVSD Parents,

Throughout the past year, our Ocean View community has remained resilient in the midst of constant changes due to the pandemic. COVID-19 statistics in California and Orange County continue to improve, and Ocean View School District will **begin to transition elementary students to attend school 5 days a week for the mandated instructional minutes. This will be a phased transition by grade level:**

March 29: Transitional Kindergarten, Kindergarten, & 1st Grade
April 12: 2nd and 3rd Grades
April 19: 4th and 5th Grades

Daily Student Schedule Transitional Kindergarten & Kindergarten

<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Release Time</u>	<u>May 3rd Release Time*</u>
8:00 am	11:45 pm	1:50 pm
8:30 am	12:15 pm	2:20 pm

Daily Student Schedule 1st - 5th Grades

<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Release Time</u>	<u>May 3rd Release Time*</u>
8:00 am	12:20 pm	2:00 pm
8:30 am	12:50 pm	2:30 pm

*Please note that beginning May 3rd, a lunch period and one hour of additional instructional time will be added to all student schedules two days per week. More information regarding this enhancement will be forthcoming.

In order to make daily in-person instruction available to our elementary students, we must adhere to the social distancing requirements (currently 4 feet between students), which will require hiring new teachers and reconfiguring classrooms. As a result, some students will be assigned to a different class and have a different teacher. We know that change may be difficult for some students, but our staff will work hard to make these transitions as smooth as possible. Learning to tackle changes with an open attitude is an important life skill, and we urge you to work with your children on accepting and navigating change. Each school principal will contact the families of students who will change classrooms/teachers, and they will also provide school specific information to all families about the transition.

Research on schools reopening across our nation reveals there are relatively low risks and high benefits for educating students in classrooms, especially in elementary grades. Health experts emphasize the importance of layering core mitigation strategies to decrease the risk of in-school transmission of COVID-19. As we prepare for this transition, we have updated our safety guidelines to adhere to the most recent guidance received from local, state, and federal agencies. The updated 2020-21 Instructional Delivery and Protection Plan will be posted on our website March 24th.

As we have previously shared, our Middle Schools will remain in the existing Hybrid schedule and we will continue to explore ways to improve the existing Hybrid schedule. Current California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and federal health guidelines recommend hybrid instruction for middle school.

We are encouraged by the positive direction the pandemic seems to be headed in and we are looking forward to welcoming our elementary, in-person students back to school five days a week. Thank you for your patience and support as we work through this exciting transition.

Sincerely,

Dr. Carol Hansen, Superintendent
Patricia Singer, President, Board of Trustees