

Email Message for Aug. 21 Opening

Hello, this is Karen Furno, principal at Avalon Middle School. Students who selected the Face-to-Face model will report to campus on Friday, August 21st. This message has important information to help your child be ready.

General Information

*Schedules - Students should follow their schedules as shown in Skyward. Make sure your child knows their teacher's name and room number for each period. There will be adults on campus to assist them in finding their classes. We are unable to accommodate any requests for schedule or teacher changes. Additionally, we are not able to accommodate requests to change from the LaunchED@Home model to the Face-to-Face model until the end of the first quarter.

*Arrival procedures - Students should not be on campus before 8:55 a.m. unless they are enrolled in the YMCA morning program which will not begin until Monday, August 24th. Students will remain in the courtyard or cafeteria, respecting social distancing guidelines, until the bell rings at 9:25 a.m. When the bell rings, students will report directly to their first period class.

*Dismissal - Students should not remain on campus beyond 4:15 unless they are participating in the afternoon YMCA program.

*Immunizations - All students entering the 7th grade must have the required immunizations on record with the school before beginning classes. Please contact our registrar, Cher Crisona, if you have any questions.

Safety Protocols

Teachers will be going through detailed safety protocols during the first week. Here are key points:

*Temperature Checks / Illness – OCPS requires you to keep your child at home when they are sick, especially if they have a temperature.

*Masks - Students are required to wear masks on campus unless given permission by a teacher to remove them or while eating lunch as long as social distancing requirements are followed. If a student forgets to bring a mask or soils their mask, a replacement will be provided. If a student refuses to wear a mask/face covering, that student will be dealt with in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

*Water Fountains - Your child is required to have a reusable water bottle to use throughout the day rather than using the water fountains. Every water fountain is equipped with a bottler filler. If you do not have a reusable water bottle for your child, one can be provided.

***Social Distancing** – Whenever possible, please encourage your child to practice physical distancing, maintaining the maximum distance possible. We recommend remaining at least six feet apart from others. In addition, students should not greet others through physical means such as shaking hands, hugging or fist bumping. Instead, we encourage waving or verbal greetings.

***Hand Washing** – After using the restroom, students should wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Hand sanitizers will be available in every classroom, and students will be encouraged to use them frequently.

***Supplies** – Students should bring their own headphones and basic supplies such as pencils and pens. Students will not be allowed to share these items. Students should not bring food items, balloons, or any other large items that can cause distractions. If your child needs to take any form of medication at school, then you must bring the medicine in its original container, fill out the required form, and leave it with the health assistant. Students may carry prescribed inhalers, but they should not carry over-the-counter or prescription medication.

***30-30** - Parents who wish to pick up their students during a 30-30 will need to pull into a parking space and go to the gym lobby with appropriate identification. Masks and social distancing will be required. Please be aware that only two parents will be allowed in the lobby at a time.

***Visitors** - Parents will not be allowed to enter the school past the main office to limit exposure to students, staff, and teachers. Parents who need to enter the campus for a meeting will be subject to temperature screening.

OCPS has provided a safety manual with additional details. Click on this [link](#) to reference this guide. Also, you can reference the district's FAQ on reopening by clicking on this [link](#).

Transportation

***Bike riders** – Remember that Florida law requires students riding bicycles and skateboards to wear helmets. Bicycles must be locked up in the bike rack. Skateboards will remain in the grade level offices during the day. Bicycles and skateboards are not to be ridden on the campus or walkways at any time. Neither OCPS nor AMS is responsible for damaged, lost or stolen bicycles or skateboards.

***Bus riders** - Students must follow the bus drivers' directions at all times. Students are expected to remain socially distant while waiting for the bus. Students are required to wear masks while waiting for the bus and while on the bus. Students will be directed to fill the bus from the back to the front and must remain in their designated seats. Hand sanitizer will be available for students to use and is encouraged. While riding the bus, students are subject to the same disciplinary procedures when they are being transported to and from school as they are while in school. Upon arrival and dismissal, students should always use the sidewalks in order to exit from and go to their buses.

Also, remember that students must ride their assigned bus to and from school, and may not board or depart the bus at a different stop. Furthermore, students may only ride their assigned bus. If a student becomes ill during the day, the student is not allowed to ride the bus home. You will need to pick them up from school.

*Car riders – All students should be dropped off and picked up in the AMS car loop. Cars should not drop students off on Mailer Blvd. or use the bus loop for pick-up and drop off of students. Once in the car line, please follow the lines of traffic as directed by school personnel. Parents should not leave their cars when dropping off or picking up their students. You must go through the car loop as directed. Please keep in mind that students are not permitted to walk through the parking lot to meet you. In addition, we ask that you remain in your vehicles unless it is medically necessary to assist your child. Students waiting for pick up should keep their masks on and remain socially distanced. Finally, please watch out for our bike riders and walkers as you enter our campus.

*Walkers – Students who walk to and from school should stay on designated sidewalks and refrain from walking in the street or in their neighbors' yards. Please be careful to cross the streets at the intersections and pay attention while crossing.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we work together to help our students be successful during these challenging times.