



## 2023-24 Reference Sheet for Families

### [Hoja de referencia para familias 2023-24](#)

If, at any time, the district receives orders or mandates by local, state or federal officials, the district will comply with those orders or mandates.

This information is subject to change.

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## **Arrival / Dismissal**

Parents are asked to remain in their cars when dropping off or picking up their child at school. Arrival and dismissal procedures may be modified to accommodate physical distancing and to assist with the flow of traffic.

### Elementary (PK-5) Arrival:

- Students riding buses will remain on the bus until greeted by a staff member. This will allow students to walk directly from the bus to the classroom.
- Students who ride to school in a car will remain in the car until they are welcomed by a staff member. The school doors will open at 8:45 a.m. and students will walk directly to the classroom upon arrival.
- Students will have the opportunity to have breakfast before the school day should they choose to eat breakfast at school.
- Our district realizes that this type of routine may cause students to be later than usual. Please reassure your child that they will never be counted tardy due to these procedures and nothing is more important than their safety.
- After students arrive at school they are not permitted to leave school property during school hours, except in the company of the adult guardian.

### Elementary (PK-5) Dismissal:

- As students leave their classrooms, they will be guided by staff to promote minimum wait times whether the child is walking home, being picked up by a parent, or riding a bus.

Each campus will communicate any additional arrival or dismissal details that will assist the families of their school.

## **Attendance**

Students, teachers and staff are expected to stay home if they do not feel well. Those absences will not interfere with the student's ability to access learning and teachers will work with students in this situation to maintain academic progress.

## **Cleaning Protocols**

For the purpose of this reference sheet, this is an overview of the cleaning procedures for our classrooms and schools. Additional details are maintained and supervised by our operations team.

Classrooms will be equipped with sanitary wipes to be used throughout the day, as needed.

Classrooms and learning areas will be cleaned on a regular basis. This cleaning process includes traditional daily vacuuming and trash removal. Toilets, sinks, etc. in restrooms will be cleaned and disinfected. Additionally, mirrors, soap dispensers, towel dispensers, etc. are cleaned, while floors are cleaned and mopped.

Facilities will be disinfected with electrostatic spraying equipment as needed.

### **Contact Tracing & Case Reporting**

Owasso Public Schools will continue its endemic management of COVID-19 for the 2023-24 school year. As was the practice during the 2022-23 school year, the district has sunset its contact tracing and weekly case reporting.

We continue to ask that parents monitor the health of their students and review the Daily Self-Check List before sending their students to school. Please consider consulting with your family physician should your child begin to develop symptoms of COVID-19.

The district will continue to monitor health trends in the community and the region and seek guidance from local and state health agencies when necessary.

### **Face Coverings / Masks**

Students and staff are welcome to wear a face covering/mask in school buildings and on school buses if they choose to do so. In compliance with Oklahoma Senate Bill 658, face coverings/masks will not be required without consultation from the Tulsa County Health Department and an emergency declaration for Tulsa County by the governor.

### **Fever**

Any student who should begin running a fever after the start of the school day will not be allowed to remain at school, per the [district's policies](#) (Policy #5.03). Regardless of the reason for a fever, a student must be fever free, without fever-reducing medication, for a minimum of 24 hours before returning to school.

If a parent is unsure about their child's health, we recommend the parent consult their child's physician.

### **Handwashing / Hygiene**

Handwashing is one of the best means of protection against infection. Students will be reminded to wash their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing their noses, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating. They will also have access to an alcohol-based hand sanitizer throughout the school building and school transportation when hand-washing opportunities are not readily available.

Frequent hand washing and sanitizing will be accommodated and encouraged. Students will be asked to wash and/or sanitize their hands before and after meals and outdoor play.

### **Learning Options**

Owasso Public Schools will continue to offer a Virtual School option for students in grades 6-12 for the 2023-24 year.

The Virtual School brings online learning home by providing students the ability to receive their education through a virtual learning format, while also receiving assistance from certified, highly-qualified teachers. This full-time option allows students to complete 100% of their coursework online. OPS teachers are available to assist students outside of the regular school day.

Enrollment for the Virtual School will take place at the beginning of each semester with students remaining enrolled for the entire semester.

Students can choose when and where they will log in, as virtual education is accessible all day, every day, wherever students have access to the internet. Students may utilize school-issued Chromebooks to complete assignments if they do not have a device available at home.

For more information, including virtual learning expectations and FAQs, please visit our [Virtual School](#) webpage.

### **Lockers**

Technology and the district's use of Chromebooks for students has diminished the need for lockers. Because of this, student lockers in hallways are not used at this time. Students who may require a locker due to special circumstances may work with their school administrators to make appropriate arrangements. Lockers or cubbies in classrooms may still be used to help keep supplies separated.

### **Meals**

Mealtimes may be staggered or students may follow a rotating schedule that allows them to eat in the cafeteria, a classroom, a gymnasium, or outdoors when weather permits.

Parents can access school menus and add money to their student's meal account on the district's website through the [Child Nutrition page](#). Parents are encouraged to complete and submit a [free & reduced lunch application](#).

Hand hygiene practices will be in place before and after mealtimes and common surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected between student groups.

### **Return to School After COVID-19**

Any child or staff member who tests positive for COVID-19 may return to school:

- after 24 hours with no fever (no fever-reducing medication) AND
- improved respiratory symptoms AND
- 5 days since symptoms first appeared.

Additionally, a child or staff member who tests positive for COVID-19 but has no symptoms can return to school after 5 days have passed since the test. Parents are asked to notify the school if any of the above situations exist. As always, parents are asked to contact the school to report their child's absence.

### **Transportation**

Owasso Public Schools transports thousands of students every day. The district intends to continue traditional busing services for existing routes. Bus routes can be found on the transportation [website](#).

For the health and safety of all bus riders, OPS will ask the following of bus riders:

- Parents should not send their child to a bus if their child fails to meet the return to school guidelines.
- Bus riders may not eat food on the bus while in operation.
- Bus riders may carry closed container drinks on buses.
- Bus riders should face forward and comply with any request of the bus driver.

Should it become necessary, the district may need to alter and/or temporarily suspend bus routes. Every effort will be made to avoid that occurring.

### **Visitors**

Visitors will be allowed, but may be limited. We know that many schools have guest artists, speakers, etc. who provide educational programs or services for students and the district seeks to have each of those programs continue for the 2023-24 school year. Opportunities for parental involvement will be communicated by the school sites.

### **Water Fountains**

Students are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle from home. Each school has bottle-filling stations. We recognize that staying hydrated, especially on warm days, is important and we will make certain that occurs.