

Hello Ogden Parents/Guardians:

April 9, 2020

With the Governor's announcement that Iowa Schools will remain closed through April 30, 2020, we want you to know that Ogden Schools remain committed to helping students and families during these challenging times. Pending any further Governor orders, we will plan to re-open on May 1. Based on the current Iowa Department of Education (IDOE) Guidance on what districts can and can not do, our district will continue to provide K-12th grade Voluntary Educational Enrichment Opportunities (VEEO). This means the learning options are available but not mandatory for students to participate. Per the IDOE, this option will count as instruction and **no** days through April 30th will need to be made up.

9th-12th grade students will have an opportunity (on a voluntary basis) for credit recovery for those courses in which students were enrolled for 2nd Semester.

For Voluntary Educational Enrichment Opportunities, you can expect your child's teacher to engage with you in the following manner:

	Middle School	High School
Communication	Your child's teacher/teachers will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Communicate on a weekly basis</li><li>2. Provide your student with information on how to recover credit for the course</li><li>3. Provide virtual office hours during which students can make contact to ask questions and receive support</li><li>4. Provide new learning opportunities to encourage continued growth in the specific content area</li></ol>	
Voluntary Credit Retention	N/A	Students will be given the opportunity to recover credit for the 2nd Semester courses in which they are currently enrolled.  Teachers will provide voluntary enrichment activities each week.  Teachers will also be working with students to offer opportunities to complete previously (prior to school closure) assigned work, take missing assessments or retake/redo work or assessments at the teacher's discretion.
Weekly Communication	Teachers will provide students with a focus lesson once or twice a week, depending on rigor and depth of activity.  There will be weekly focus activities provided for each course taught in the middle school.	Teachers will provide students with a focus lesson once or twice a week, depending on rigor and depth of activity.  There will be weekly focus activities provided for each course taught in the high school.

	Teachers will post regular “office hours” during which they can be contacted via email, Zoom, or Google Hangout	Teachers will post regular “office hours” during which they can be contacted via email, Zoom, or Google Hangout  Teachers will respond to communications outside of the posted office hours within 24 hours of receiving.
Suggested Schedule	Teachers will collaborate to determine an appropriate amount of time each day to interact with academic content.	Clearly, the 8-period day is no longer our reality. Students will need to exercise agency with regard to time management. Pacing for the week may be suggested by the teacher on a course-by course basis.
Technology Resources	<b>Chromebooks</b> For families that do not have a device at home or are in need of additional devices may “borrow” a device from the school. Procedures for check out will be outlined for those needing to do so.	<b>Chromebooks</b> High school is 1:1 with Chromebooks issued by the school. If your student did not bring their Chromebook home, and they will need it to continue to participate in voluntary Continuous Learning, then we will arrange for pickup of their device.
Feedback	Students can expect timely feedback on the activities they complete.	Students can expect timely feedback on the activities they complete.
Grades		Students’ grades will be issued for work completed prior to the school closure. Opportunities will be provided as appropriate for students to improve marks on work already submitted. There will be no grades issued for the Continuous Learning opportunities provided from April 13th - April 30th.

**\*A Note About 9-12th Grade Recovered Courses:** Please realize the instruction and support for recovered courses will not be identical to what students would experience in a regular school setting. We encourage you to thoroughly consider whether this is the right option for your child. For instance, if your child is enrolled in a course that builds skills necessary for the success of another course, such as Algebra I and Algebra II, and your child is planning to take more rigorous math courses beyond those required, we would strongly suggest you consider investing fully in the optional content being provided.

**Supplementary National and State Resources:** The Iowa Department of Education has put together a depository of resources for parents to aid in supporting their children at home. You can access via this [link](#).

**Chromebooks for Loan (K-8):** We ask that you only checkout what you will need. If your household could share a device between siblings that would be appreciated. Students may use personal devices at home as well, all they will need to do is sign-in using their school Google account. If you need a device, please fill out the following form. Once we have received your request, we will be contacting you about instructions on picking up the device.

[Chromebook Loan Form](#)

**Chromebooks for Students (9-12):** If you did not take home your Chromebook before Spring Break, it will be available for pick-up during the Grab-and-Go Lunch pickup at the Ogden High School. You can let the people know you are picking up your chromebook when you are in the line.

**Wi-Fi:** At this time wi-fi access point has been placed by the exterior door in the High School Library. You can access the Guest Network from your car by parking close to the building on the South Side of the High School (by the Wrestling Room/High School Library/Dock). We are just asking that people and students not gather together. Many cell phone companies have added, at no cost, additional data to your plan. You may want to check with your provider.

**Event Rescheduling:** At this time everything is postponed. Once groups are allowed to gather, we will consider which events will be canceled permanently and which will be rescheduled. We will do everything we can to get back to normal as soon as possible and to honor celebrations, special events, etc. We will keep you updated as information becomes available.

**Students Receiving Special Services (Special Education, English Language Learners, 504, TAG):**Your child's special services teacher will reach out to work with you to discuss how to best support your child during the closure.

**Teacher Phone Calls:** It is likely a teacher may call to talk to you or your child and the number may appear as blocked, or private. Please answer these calls as teachers won't be calling from a school district number since all are working from home.

**Class of 2020:** You will be contacted by Mr. Ruble. He will work with you to develop a plan so that if you were meeting all graduation requirements before the closure, you will graduate. Those who still had requirements to meet, will have options to recover and complete the necessary coursework. Mrs. Sperling be in touch to discuss and provide help with post-secondary planning.

**Grab and Go Lunch Program Continues:** This will continue Monday- Friday from 11am-12pm in the circle drive at the Secondary Building

**Updates:**We will continue to use Infinite Campus Messenger and our website for communication. Generally, we send messages at the end of the day for several reasons. We are briefed from multiple entities throughout the day from the Iowa Department of Education, Governor's Office, Area Education Agency, Iowa Association of School Boards, etc.

Once we have new information, several decisions have to be made. Additionally, internal coordination and communication needs to occur before we communicate with the public.

**Essential Staff Only:** Only essential staff are working in our buildings. The best method to get in contact with people is to send an email.

With schools closed through April 30, our goal is to support all learners as best we can. We understand there are challenges and we appreciate the opportunity to work thoughtfully together. If you are struggling or need help, do not hesitate to reach out. Thank you again for your support, grace and understanding. We appreciate all the positive feedback. We are proud to be a part of the Ogden CSD and are working hard to support every student in Winterset under these most unusual circumstances. Do not hesitate to reach out if you need help.

**We are Here to Help You. If You Have Question Here is Where You Should Start:**

- Technology support contact: Jesse Sundell at [techsupport@ogden.k12.ia.us](mailto:techsupport@ogden.k12.ia.us)
- Instructional questions: contact your child's teacher
- Link to [Voluntary Educational Enrichment Opportunities](#)
- Process or support questions: contact your child's building administrator [maury.ruble@ogden.k12.ia.us](mailto:maury.ruble@ogden.k12.ia.us)
- COVID-19 school-related questions, visit our [website](#)
- If you have further questions contact [pam.dodge@ogden.k12.ia.us](mailto:pam.dodge@ogden.k12.ia.us)