



September 4, 2020

Dear OES Parents/Guardians,

First, let me say I hope you and your family are safe and healthy. Thank you so much for your patience and understanding as we have been adjusting, like you to the changes in life during the last few months. I am extremely appreciative of our OES families, teachers and staff for their positivity, flexibility and resilience during these trying times.

While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, our district is following a Safe School initiative to reduce the risk to students, teachers, and staff. One component of this initiative will require that students return for Face-to-Face instruction in phases. For this upcoming second phase, 25% of our students will return on September 10, 2020. As we proceed into the next phases, families will be contacted via telephone by an OES staff member. As part of this initiative, we will have some protocols in place to promote a safe school environment.

Morning Drop Offs:

- Parents/guardians will not be able to drop off students earlier than 7:30 am.
- Parents/guardians will not be able to leave their cars or enter the building.
- Students must have their temperature taken prior to exiting their vehicle. Anyone with a temperature of a 100 degrees or higher will not be permitted into the building and will have to receive clearance from the doctor to return.

Buses:

- Students must have their temperature taken prior to boarding the bus. Anyone with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher will not be permitted on the bus.
- Transportation will be limited while in-person instruction is phased-in.

Dismissal:

- Parents/guardians who wish to pick up their student before the end of the school day will need to call ahead so students can be ready prior to their arrival.
- Students will be dismissed in staggered groups and taken to different areas of the pickup area to reduce the risk of potential crowding outside at dismissal time.

*Odem Elementary*  
*1 Owl Square*  
*Odem, Texas 78370*



Lunch:

- Students may bring their own meals or be served individually plated cafeteria meals.
- Students will be spaced throughout the cafeteria to create distance between students. Students cannot receive outside food deliveries.
- No parents/visitors during lunch.
- Classes will go to lunch on a staggered schedule to minimize the number of students in the cafeteria. High surface areas will be disinfected between service periods and use.

Restrooms:

- Classroom teachers will take students on scheduled restroom breaks to help monitor and regulate capacity in a manner that practices social distancing

Sanitization:

- Custodial staff will clean and sanitize classrooms, restrooms, and commonly shared areas daily
- Disinfecting mist will be regularly applied to reduce the spread of germs

Masks:

- As determined by the governor's executive order, students who are 4-9 years old are not required to wear masks. It is recommended that they wear masks, but it is your right as a parent to make that decision. If you choose to have your child wear a mask, school personnel are not responsible for lost or damaged masks.

During these times, we strive to share any new information as soon as possible. In order to stay abreast on the most up-to-date information, please visit our district website, social media platforms, Seesaw, and your teacher's communication system- Remind, Group Me, Class Dojo, etc. Please be reassured that your child's safety is of the up most importance to us. Please know that you may contact us if you have any further questions or concerns

Sincerely,

Esmeralda R. Martinez  
Principal, Odem Elementary

**Phone: (361) 368-3881, Ext. 268**  
**Fax: (361) 368-2033**  
**[www.ocisd.org](http://www.ocisd.org)**