

August 7, 2020

Hello Orono High School parents and guardians,

Orono High School staff and administration are so excited to welcome your family to the 2020-21 school year! We have been working hard to develop plans to reopen safely with the best interests of students and our entire learning community in mind. Currently, our work is focused on developing and finalizing all information related to the upcoming school year. We know you have a lot of questions as we approach the beginning of the year. Many are answered here, and others will be answered as soon as we know more about each family's preferred instructional model. Thank you for your patience and please continue to look for communication from the high school, the district office and the district website. The Orono High School **back to school newsletter** will be emailed to families on August 17 with additional information on the following:

- Lockers
- Lunch, breakfast, snack break (create a lunch payment account in [MyPaymentsPlus](#))
- Parking permit information (Permit application will open on August 24)
- Freshman Orientation
- Calendar Items
- School pictures and yearbooks
- Visitor Information

At this time, I would like to give you some information regarding our schedules and other matters. The following items are important as you think about your child's return to school this year.

### Learning Models

**Hybrid Option:** Orono High School will run a hybrid learning model to begin the 2020-2021 school year. This option offers alternating days of in-person instruction each week combined with scheduled live or on-demand distance learning and online resources on opposite days. Online resources will include video recordings of teacher lessons, digital textbook resources, supplemental online resources, as well as interactive and independent learning activities. Although specific activities will vary by course and grade level, students in the younger grades, particularly 9th grade, will participate in more frequent live, synchronous activities.

**Distance Learning Option:** Secondary students who choose distance learning will maintain the same class schedule as students in the hybrid model. The secondary distance learning model will combine live interaction with teachers and peers, and flexibility to access online class resources as needed. Online resources will include video recordings of teacher lessons, digital textbook resources, supplemental online resources, as well as interactive and independent learning activities.

### Student schedules

Student schedules will be available on August 24, and notification will come via email to both parents and students. Please check StudentVUE and ParentVUE. We will be running our regular school day schedule, from 7:50 AM to 2:30 PM.

Students with the last initial A-K will follow the A schedule, attending school Mondays, Wednesdays and every other Friday. Students with the last initial L-Z will follow the B schedule, attending school Tuesdays, Thursdays, and every other Friday. Please [visit the district calendar page](#) to download the 2020-21 A/B Calendar for Orono High School.

### Questions?

Please visit the district's [Back-to-School Options webpage](#) for links to the 2020-21 learning models, FAQs and Health & Safety document, and messages from Dr. Orcutt. For unique questions about your child's learning needs, please contact your student's [school counselor](#) or [ohsmainoffice@orono.k12.mn.us](mailto:ohsmainoffice@orono.k12.mn.us).

We look forward to welcoming your students back to Orono High School! We know that we will need to be flexible as we receive new information. As a district and a building we will continue to update you as new information becomes available.

Thank you for your continued support,

Amy Steiner, Ed.D.  
Principal, Orono High School