

August 24, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The start of the school year is right around the corner. The first day of school for students is **Tuesday, September 7, 2021**. Our primary goal for the year is to keep our students and staff as safe as possible and to keep students in school for 5 day/week, in-person instruction. Enclosed with this letter you will find a copy of your child's schedule and additional information about the upcoming school year.

Masks & Screening:

Masks are required for all staff, students and visitors regardless of vaccination status in all BOCES buildings and vehicles. Students will be permitted to take mask breaks at the discretion of faculty or administration. Students experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home and immediately contact their healthcare provider to determine the cause and if a test is necessary. Parents/Guardians should notify the school attendance officer/nurse as soon as practicable for any absence. Students are expected to follow screening guidance from their home district as appropriate.

Arrival/Dismissal & Transportation:

Students arriving by bus will be required to remain on the bus until given the approval to exit the bus to enter the building by an ONC BOCES staff member. In an effort to reduce entryway and hallway congestion, buses will be released by district. We require that students are transported to BOCES by their district's bus or dropped off by a parent/guardian. The bus driver will help ensure that students are symptom free of COVID-19 before arriving on campus. If a student is dropped off, the parent/guardian will be required to come into the building and sign the student in to verify the student is not displaying COVID-19 symptoms. At this time, **we are not allowing students to drive themselves or others** to campus and **driving passes will not be given out.**

Breakfast and Lunch (for students who stay on campus all day):

Students will eat breakfast and lunch in the classrooms. Classrooms will be cleaned after each mealtime. Breakfast and lunch classrooms will be grouped by program and grade level. Students will be provided with details on groupings, room assignments, and lunch pick-up times when they arrive on the first day. Students will remain in the assigned classroom for the duration of the lunch period with the exclusion of gathering their lunch from the cafeteria at the designated time.

Digital Access Information:

Due to the ongoing uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, ONC BOCES has developed a learning plan that prioritizes in-person learning. However, we have developed a brief survey to collect information regarding the availability of internet access and access to technology devices at home for all our students should we be required to go remote at any time. This information and your participation are *critical* to our ability to continue to provide high-quality programming for our students. You may use the link on the reverse side of this letter or scan the QR code to complete the survey.

QR code to form:

Survey Link: <https://bit.ly/ONCDASurvey>



If you're unable to complete the survey electronically, a paper version of the survey is included in this mailing and should be returned to:

NCOC Students:
ONC BOCES
PO Box 382
Grand Gorge, NY 12434

OAOC Students:
ONC BOCES
PO Box 57
Milford, NY 13807

Please complete a survey for each of your children that attend BOCES.

Should there be any questions regarding the contents of this letter, please contact either of us in the main office at 607-588-6291 (NCOC) & 607-286-7715 (OAOC).

We look forward to welcoming students back!

Sincerely,



Crystal L. Trask
Building Principal
Norther Catskills Occupational Center



April Erkson
Building Principal
Otsego Area Occupational Center