

August 11, 2021

Dear SES Outlaw Parents,

Our summer is rapidly coming to an end, and we are in the process of gearing up for our new school year. I hope that you have had a relaxing time together as families enjoying all that our special corner of the world has to offer.

We know that many of our families are beginning to process what the fall will look like for you. I am sending this letter with updates on some of the essential pieces as you plan. You can also expect one more update from me the week of August 23 with final school opening details. As with so much the past 1.5 years, this communication is subject to change if there are any state updates from ODE that would alter our plans.

School Calendar: You can access the school calendar on our district website. This year we will be in school 5 days a week. We will no longer have late start Wednesdays but rather early release Fridays for our staff professional development. The rationale for the change is to ensure a consistent start time for younger students with working parents, to mitigate lost classroom time for older students who participate in co-curricular activities, and to respond to parents who enjoyed a longer weekend with last year's 4-day schedule.

School Schedule: We will have a consistent start time for all students and a slightly staggered dismissal. We will continue our parking lot drop-off and pick up routines consistent with last year.

- **Arrival:** M-F:
 - 8:15: Our playground gate will open by the parking lot and students of all ages will enter and engage in activities on the

- playground. Parents will say their goodbyes prior to the students entering the gate.
- 8:25: Classrooms open. Students will enter from their designated playground doors to the classrooms. Students who arrive after 8:25 will report directly to their classrooms.
 - 8:35: Tardy bell; instruction begins.
 - **Dismissal:** M-Th: All students in a family are dismissed with the OLDEST sibling.
 - 2:45: K-1st Dismissal
 - 2:55: 2nd Dismissal
 - 3:05: 3rd-4th Dismissal/Bus-riders
 - **Dismissal:** Friday Early Release: All students in a family are dismissed with the OLDEST sibling.
 - 12:45: K-1st Dismissal
 - 12:55: 2nd Dismissal
 - 1:05: 3rd-4th Dismissal/Bus-riders

School Supplies: We have attached the school supplies lists so that you can acquire the necessary supplies. Your students will need their supplies by August 31 to drop them off at our Stop n Drop/Meet n Greet event. Please make sure to purchase the precise brand that has been listed- many off brand items do not work well for our students.

Stop n Drop/Meet n Greet: August 31 5:00-6:30 pm; Please reserve the early evening to come to school to drop off your school supplies, meet your child's teacher and connect with the rest of our SES community. You will receive complete details by mail the week of August 23; we are basing our plan for the evening on the most up-to-date COVID guidance.

[Supply List 21-22.pdf](#)

Sisters Elementary School Educational Options: This year we will be offering two educational options:

1. Full time in-person instruction
2. Sisters Educational Options (SEO). This option is for families who wish to conduct their schooling

at home and consists primarily of printed materials for homeschooling with some online instructional support.

If your family is choosing the SEO option, and you have not already indicated that in June on the official

form, you must notify Shannon Beutler at shannon.beutler@ssd6.org by **August 20**. All other students

are automatically enrolled in our in-person learning option.

Volunteering: At this time we are still limited as to volunteers in the building; however volunteers essential to the learning process are now able to be in the building while adhering to all of the safety protocols. This year everyone will need to go through the volunteer certification process; I would encourage you to register in August so that you are ready when the need arises. Please contact Shannon in our office. If you are interested in joining our parent organization (SPTC) board, please email them at sistersptc@gmail.com. They would love to welcome you to their team.

COVID Protocols: This fall we will continue to observe COVID mandates including the recent mandate that all people in any school building during school hours will be required to wear masks. I want to remind all of us that our students were in the building last year for the entire year under stringent COVID protocols, and our school was a positive and safe place. Our students who were learning in-person were excited to come to school, were engaged in learning, and made excellent growth on our district assessments. At this time, masks will be optional outdoors. Our focus will continue to be on the decisions and choices within our sphere of influence and we will continue to examine our processes and procedures to ensure that our students are safe and successful. You will receive complete information on all of the COVID protocols in the coming weeks.

Monday, August 16: (7:30-3:30) School office reopens for registration and other questions

August 25-27: Teacher introduction letters and principal letter mailed

Monday, August 30: Staff returns for Professional Development Week

Tuesday, August 31: Stop n Drop/Meet n Greet event

Wednesday, Sept. 1- Thursday, Sept. 2: Office closed so all staff can attend Professional Development

Tuesday, September 7: First Day of School 1st-5th grades

Monday, September 13: First Day of School PK and K

I am so grateful to be a part of this incredible community and am looking forward to seeing all of our students and families again, as we reconnect as an Outlaw community. We are going to be considering ways that we can begin to rebuild the vital connections with one another that slipped away during the pandemic. I welcome any ideas or suggestions of ways that we can make this happen.

We will see all of you the evening of August 31. Have a wonderful and restful end to your summer!

Joan Warburg

Principal, Sisters Elementary School