



OLD FORGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

“Home of the Blue Devils”

300 Marion Street, Old Forge, PA 18518

Phone: (570) 457-6721

www.ofsd.cc

Erin Keating, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Brian Rinaldi
Business Manager

April 27, 2020

RE: Phase 2 of Continuity of Education Plan

Dear Parents and Guardians:

On Monday, May 4, 2020 the Old Forge School District (OFSD) will move to Phase 2 of their Continuity of Education Plan. As of this date, work will be **MANDATORY** and **GRADED** for all students in the OFSD. The administration and faculty of the OFSD is committed to providing the best learning opportunity possible during this unprecedented time. Phase 2 will continue through the last day of school, Thursday, June 11, 2020.

Phase 2 of the Continuity of Education Plan will begin using the web-based programs Edgenuity (Grades 6-12) and Odysseyware (Grades K-5). These programs were made available to the district through the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Specific directions to access and begin the programs will be forwarded by your building principal. A schedule of learning activities, quite similar to that of Phase 1, will also be distributed, so families are fully aware of the work expectations for students.

The grading procedure for the completion of marking period 3 grades and the means for marking period 4 grades is attached to this letter. All new material covered in Edgenuity and Odysseyware is expected to be completed on the assigned day by students. Computer technology will be distributed to those families who requested it and IT Support will be available at 570-457-6721.

Additionally, we are continuing to populate our district webpage (ofsd.cc) and Facebook page with community resources to support students and families at this time. A combination meal of breakfast and lunch will continue to be distributed Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday of each week from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM. The OFSD will be posting directions for retuning of textbooks, technology and all materials toward the completion of the school year. Please watch for these directions.

Finally, to the graduating Class of 2020, we are working to finalize options for your commencement ceremony. Mr. Gatto will be meeting with class officers and the class as a whole to look at possibilities for graduation. The amendments to achieve graduation are attached to this letter. Your yearbook is still under production and will be completed for you. Your class trip and prom are postponed indefinitely, but if possible we will make alternative arrangements for both events if social distancing measures are lessened or removed.

We wish that we were all together but thank the students, parents and community for their patience and support during this trying time. I hope you are all safe and healthy and look forward to seeing you again.

Respectfully,

Erin Keating, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Christopher J. Gatto
High School Principal

Michelle Hopkins
Special Education Supervisor

Shelly Egan
Elementary Principal



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Grading and Graduation

Grading:

A resolution to amend the current grading practice in the OFSD was passed by the School Board at the April voting meeting. Staff was contacted by email prior to the resolution being passed to offer insight and concerns into the new grading system. Teachers will finalize grade for each marking period in the following manner:

- 3rd Marking Period Grades:
 - High School
 - Teachers will finalize 3rd marking period grades in MMS and compare them to 2nd marking period grades. If the 2nd marking period grade was higher, the student will receive the 2nd marking period grade for the 3rd marking period as well.
 - 3rd marking period cycle classes will be graded as pass/fail.
 - A semester class will be graded as pass/fail.
 - Elementary
 - The student would receive the highest grade possible for the letter category according to the elementary grading policy found in the elementary handbook. If a student is failing, they would receive a 70%.
 - Elementary Grading System
 - A 93 - 100
 - B 85 – 92
 - C 77 – 84
 - D 70 – 76
 - F Below 70
- 4th Marking Period
 - 4th marking period will be pass/fail for all classes.
 - 4th marking period of the 2019-2020 school year will not be calculated in a student’s GPA.
 - There will be no final exams.
 - Dual enrollment students will receive the grade from their institution of higher learning for transfer purposes, but it will not be included in their GPA calculation.
 - Nothing in this resolution shall affect the rights of students with disabilities to be promoted based on the plans established in their IEPs.
 - Administration can review and determine final grades for students in the 2019-2020 school.

Christopher J. Gatto
High School Principal

Michelle Hopkins
Special Education Supervisor

Shelly Egan
Elementary Principal



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Graduation:

A resolution to amend the current Graduation requirements in the OFSD was passed by the School Board at the April voting meeting. Staff was contacted by email prior to the resolution being passed to offer insight and concerns into the new grading system. The Class of 2020 will reach graduation in the following manner:

- The closure of all schools in response to the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 has rendered the District unable to complete high school testing mandated by the Commonwealth and federal governments and to deliver fully standards-aligned instruction for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school term; and
- The Old Forge School District has established local standards for graduation that the District either cannot, or cannot feasibly, implement to enable the current class of 2020 to graduate in the manner and within the time anticipated; and
- Without waiver of certain graduation requirements established by the District, the class of 2020 will suffer an irreparable loss for reasons beyond the control of the District or these students to alter.
- The Board of School Directors hereby suspends the requirements it has established for graduation from High School for the 2019-2020 school year and establishes the following in place thereof:
 - Students will be credited with all coursework, including partial coursework, completed successfully prior to March 13, 2020 and such credit shall be deemed sufficient to earn a District-issued high school diploma by the end of June 2020;
 - For seniors who had failed or were failing senior-year courses prior to March 13, 2020, the Superintendent shall establish opportunities for credit recovery or demonstration of proficiency with course content through the “continuity of education” plan the District has developed.
 - 4th marking period of the 2019-2020 school year will not be calculated in a student’s GPA.
 - Dual enrollment students will receive the grade from their institution of higher learning for transfer purposes, but it will not be included in their GPA calculation.
 - Class rank for the Class of 2020 will be determined at the conclusion of the 3rd marking period.
 - Nothing in this resolution shall affect the rights of students with disabilities to graduate based on the plans established in their IEPs.
 - Administration can review and determine final grades for students in the 2019-2020 school.
 - Nothing in this resolution shall affect graduation requirements of the District for any year other than 2020.

Christopher J. Gatto
High School Principal

Michelle Hopkins
Special Education Supervisor

Shelly Egan
Elementary Principal