FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK
May 4, 2020

Dear Greyhounds,

I hope this parent update finds you and your family well. We are coming into the final turn of the 2020-21 school year and it has definitely been one for the history books. Our district has remained steadfast in the commitment to provide exemplary instruction and support and the Hounds Virtual Academy remains as our platform to provide access to instruction, digital materials, and activities to engage our Hounds in learning during the time schools may remain closed.

As a reminder, the [OSSD Instructional Continuity Plan](#) details our academic expectations and grade advancement requirements. In keeping with Governor Reeves’ Executive Order (#1476) and OSSD School Board Policy, all students must complete the work that has been assigned to them during the fourth quarter. Failure to do so will result in the student receiving an Incomplete Grade for the course. In the fall, all K-8 students will be given a screener and the results of the screener will dictate where students with incomplete grades will be retained in the 2020-21 grade or will be promoted. OSHS students will be required to retake courses that receive an incomplete grade. Parents, it is imperative that you check PowerSchool and see the status of your child's fourth quarter progress.

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**Hounds Virtual Academy Summer Enrichment**
June-July 2020
PreK-12

- This virtual camp is totally optional and will be offered as enrichment opportunities for families this summer
- These non-graded activities will be provided by email notification each Friday to parents and students.
❖ Content/Grade Level:
   ➢ K-8 for language arts, math, and science
   ➢ 9-12 for Algebra, English, US History and Biology
   ➢ ACT enrichment
   ➢ Virtual field trips/artistic opportunities

❖ OSSD 2020 Summer Reading List
   ➢ The district will provide grade-level lists.
     ■ 10 titles per grade
     ■ Each book will have an ebook version.
     ■ Remember, Amazon is offering Audible free of charge and we will try to include titles here as well.
     ■ We will focus on books that support ELA/Math/Science standards in the fourth quarter of 19-20 or the first quarter of 20-21. The standard will be listed by each title.

Mississippi Department of Education Digital Access Surveys for Families
As school closures continue and as the state develops plans to direct resources to the areas of greatest need, the MDE has prepared two brief surveys for districts to circulate: one to their families, the other to their teachers, administrators and other staff who are/will be working from home. Your aggregated results will be shared with the governor's office for planning purposes. This information is critical as the results will shape state policy to address the internet connectivity challenges across the state. Six survey questions address the ability of families to connect their children to digital learning offerings from their school through the internet. The surveys focus on devices at home, home internet access, and the quality/reliability of that connection.

Please complete the English Survey or Español Survey here!

OSSD Superintendent’s Parent Advisory Council 2020-2021

The Superintendent engages parents as true partners in building and sustaining a strong educational foundation in OSSD. We invite all OSSD parents to apply to serve as a member of the Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council (SPAC) as we work to build a strong community-parent-school partnership.

SPAC members will:

● Actively participate in monthly meetings with the Superintendent
● Share input on upcoming policy decisions and best practices
● Discuss parent perspectives on topics impacting their child’s school and the school district
● Build relationships with parents from across the school district
● Provide feedback to the Superintendent and be responsible for sharing, promoting, and communicating information to parents in our district.

Apply here by May 31, 2020!
The health and safety of OSSD'S students is our top priority, and we will continue doing everything we can to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in our community. Please be sure to visit the OSSD Health Alert website for the most up-to-date information and resources available.

Sincerely,

Bonita R. Coleman, PhD
Superintendent of Schools
REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Make sure that you have electronic copies of your two proofs of residency along with phone numbers and email addresses for all your emergency contacts before you begin.

2. Login to the Parent Portal at pschool.osdms.org. You must complete registration on a web browser (Chrome/Safari/Firefox). The PowerSchool App will not work.

3. In the left margin, you will see the 2020-21 Registration button in red font when you login.

   IF THIS BUTTON DOES NOT APPEAR, PLEASE CALL YOUR STUDENT’S SCHOOL FOR ASSISTANCE.

4. The page with Registration Instructions will populate. The unique username and password are provided here along with the OSSD Back to School Registration link.

   ![Registration Instructions Image](image)

   To begin, Click this link OSSD Back to School Registration

   If you do not receive the Key Re-Registration portal you will have to wait until August 15, 2020, all OSSD schools process and return the required registration and residency information at this school.

   YOU MUST TYPE THE SLASHES IN THE PASSWORD

#OSKEEPSSHINING
PARENT QUESTIONS?

TECHNOLOGY QUESTION
- All login or password information for computer, email, Google Classroom, Edmentum, i-Ready, etc.
- Note: For internet connectivity issues, please contact your service provider.

Google Question
- Questions regarding Gmail, Google Classroom, G Suite applications (Google Docs, Google Sheets, Google Slides, etc.).

Contact:
OSSD Learn From Home Page
ossdms.org/apps/pages/LearnFromHome

ASSIGNMENT QUESTION
- Questions regarding due dates, weekly checklist, specific assignments, problems, curriculum, etc.

Contact:
Email your child’s teacher or schedule a Zoom meeting during the teacher's office hours.

EDMENTUM QUESTION
- Questions regarding how to maneuver the Edmentum platform (where is the assignment, did an assignment submit, etc.).
- Note: Edmentum does not answer any questions regarding specific teacher assignments, due dates, etc. GRADES 7-12 ONLY.

Contact:
1-800-447-5286
support@edmentum.com

Contact your Student’s Teacher if you are unsure.