



RSU #23
Old Orchard Beach School Department
40 E. Emerson Cummings Blvd
Old Orchard Beach, Maine 04064
(207) 934-5751 Fax (207) 934-1917
www.rsu23.org

Date: June 1, 2020

Subject: End of Year Updates

Dear Old Orchard Beach Community:

As the end of the school year nears we wanted to provide you with important updates regarding graduation, our summer food service program, and details on our RSU 23 Return to School Planning Framework for 2020-2021.

CLASS OF 2020 GRADUATION

CLASS OF 2020 INDIVIDUAL GRADUATION CEREMONY: On Sunday, June 7th at 2 PM the OOBHS graduation video will be presented to graduates and the public for viewing and celebration. The link will be posted on our RSU 23 and OOBHS website and sent via email to all students and parents. The video is being professionally filmed and edited and will be provided to all OOBHS graduates as a lifelong keepsake.

CLASS OF 2020 INDIVIDUAL GRADUATION CEREMONY SIGN-UPS: On Sunday morning, June 7th, students and their families (up to ten people) will have the option to schedule a 10-minute photo-op and diploma pick-up at the Seaside Pavilion. Students that schedule an appointment will receive their diploma from school officials and have an opportunity for family photos. A photographer will be onsite and photos are free to families. Please see the important information about this date below:

1. A digital sign-up sheet is linked [-HERE-](#) for you to select a 10-minute time slot.
2. During this experience, we will be adhering to Governor Mills social distancing and group gathering guidelines. Visitors will be expected to wear cloth face coverings when convening at the Pavilion. However, graduates can remove masks for the walk across the stage, when they receive the diploma and the picture.
3. Graduates and guests, please arrive 10 minutes before your scheduled appointment time.
4. Upon entry to the Seaside Pavilion we ask that you be seated in the rear of the pavilion in your family/friend group. From there you will be invited down to the main stage for their ceremony by OOBHS staff.



RSU #23
Old Orchard Beach School Department
40 E. Emerson Cummings Blvd
Old Orchard Beach, Maine 04064
(207) 934-5751 Fax (207) 934-1917
www.rsu23.org

FOOD SERVICE CONTINUES THIS SUMMER!

As a reminder, we are continuing to serve free breakfasts and lunches Monday-Friday each week for all children 18 and under. No questions asked, simply show up to our meal distribution and receive meals for your child(ren). We will be closed the week of June 29-July 3, but will serve meals the remainder of the summer through August 14. As a reminder, our service sites are behind Loranger Memorial School from 11:30-12:30 and at the following community drop-off locations:

- Smithwheel Farms from 11:30-11:45
- Pinebrook Terrace Playground from 11:50-12
- Memorial Park from 12-12:15
- Beaver Creek Condos from 12:30-12:40

RSU 23 RETURN TO SCHOOL PLANNING FRAMEWORK FOR 2020-2021:

As staff and students wrap-up the 2019-20 school year, we are working closely in teams of staff to develop our RSU 23 Return to School Planning Framework for 2020-2021. We appreciate your patience and flexibility throughout this entire process and understand the challenges this pandemic has created. Please know that throughout our planning process the health and safety of our students, staff, and community remain paramount and our decisions will include consultation with the Maine Center For Disease Control, the Maine Department of Education, and community stakeholders. As we begin this important and complex work we recognize that there remains a high level of uncertainty as to the impact COVID-19 will have on our public health and school systems in the upcoming school year. Regardless, RSU 23 will develop plans that accommodate for a range of public health outcomes and that ensure the delivery of school services to all students whether we remain in a remote learning environment or can safely reopen schools with the modifications necessary to meet CDC and public health guidelines. Below, is a more detailed description of our decision making process, planning phases, and implementation timeline.

PROCESS AND PLANNING PHASES: RSU 23 is taking an agile approach to the development of our 2020-2021 Return to School Planning Framework that acknowledges the ever-changing circumstances and information regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic and its associated risk to public health. This approach allows RSU 23 to begin the planning and preparation for the upcoming school year while allowing the necessary flexibility to modify and revise plans as guidance and information become available.

RSU 23 Return to School Planning Framework for 2020-2021

1. PLAN DEVELOPMENT & VALIDATION:

- a. Form and convene working groups
 - i. Operations



RSU #23
Old Orchard Beach School Department
40 E. Emerson Cummings Blvd
Old Orchard Beach, Maine 04064
(207) 934-5751 Fax (207) 934-1917
www.rsu23.org

1. Facilities
2. Operations
3. Transportation
4. Food Service
5. Technology
- ii. Instruction & Student Services
 1. Social & Emotional Health
 2. Instruction & Response to Intervention
 - a. PreK-5 Grade-Band
 - b. 6-12 Grade-Band
 3. Health Services
 4. Athletics & Activities
- iii. Resource Allocation
 1. Governance & Policy
 2. Human Resources
 3. Finance
- b. Gather staff input
- c. Create an initial draft of the 2020 COVID-19 Plan

2. PUBLIC HEALTH MONITORING & PLAN MODIFICATION:

- a. Monitor and assess public health information in consultation with The Maine Center for Disease Control & The Maine Department of Education
- b. Validate and refine plans in consideration of research-based, best practices
- c. Establish district priorities
- d. Gather and incorporate community stakeholder feedback

3. PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- a. Create detailed action steps for implementation
- b. Track and monitor progress of the implementation effort
- c. Communicate criteria for opening and closing schools

TIMELINE: The RSU 23 Return to School Planning Framework for 2020-2021 will be reviewed by the School Board upon completion and will be shared with families no later than August 7, 2020. Throughout the month of August, RSU 23 will continue to monitor and assess public health information in consultation with The Maine Center for Disease Control & The Maine Department of Education to determine whether we are on track to safely reopen schools as scheduled on August 31, 2020.



RSU #23
Old Orchard Beach School Department
40 E. Emerson Cummings Blvd
Old Orchard Beach, Maine 04064
(207) 934-5751 Fax (207) 934-1917
www.rsu23.org

In closing, I would like to thank the students, families, staff, school board, and community for all of the cooperation, support, and great collective effort as our world dramatically changed in March. You all have done heroic deeds on behalf of our schools. Honestly, I do not know what the fall will look like in terms of schooling. I can promise you however that we will continue to make good decisions that put the safety and well-being of our students and staff at the forefront. I know everyone wants life to go back to the way it was as soon as possible and we will follow the guidance that the DOE and CDC provide us. I want to make it clear that “Guidance” from the DOE is exactly that...guidance. Our local policies, procedures, collective bargaining agreements, and decision making supersedes any guidance that comes from Augusta. Please stay safe, be well, and once again thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Suttie".

John Suttie
RSU 23 Superintendent of Schools