



July 22, 2020

Dear Orenda Public Charter School Families,

We have been busy working to finalize our plan to provide strong, effective instruction while keeping students and staff safe.

2020-21 School Start Plan: Our draft 2020-21 School Start Plan is available [here](#). Please note that the information in this document is subject to change as directives are provided by governing agencies and/or health officials or as environmental needs change.

Start-of-School Transition: You may have heard last week that the Governor extended the start-of-school transition period to the first four weeks of the school year to facilitate a safe and effective return to school. Due to the high community spread, we have made the decision to offer only virtual instruction for all campuses except New Horizons from August 19 – September 8th.

However, at this time, there will be an option for students to come to campus to participate in remote instruction. Staff will monitor students as they work virtually while implementing our safety guidelines. Students will receive the same instruction, whether on-campus or at-home, during this four-week time which will include a daily schedule with lunch and breaks. We are encouraging all families who can facilitate learning at home to keep their students home during the four-week transition period. This will help us safely transition to a larger number of students on campus starting in September. This will also allow families without internet access, where both parents are working, and other challenges during this time that prevent them from being able to facilitate learning at home an option for their child to receive instruction.

As of today, the counties where our campuses reside have not issued any orders related to on-campus instruction. Please note that if we do receive an order from the county or city, this may prevent us from offering an on-campus option as described above. We are regularly monitoring communication and information from state and local health agencies.

Face Coverings: K-12 public schools are subject to the current face coverings order set forth by the State. Staff, visitors, and students 4th grade and above are required to wear a face covering while at school. We encourage you to have your students start practicing wearing a face covering in 30 minute intervals so they are comfortable wearing a face covering when they return to school.



Instruction Commitment: Families will be asked to make a commitment to a format of learning (on-campus or remote) for the start of the school year by August 5th (two weeks before the start of the school year). In most cases, families will be asked to commit to in-person or remote learning *by grading period*. The commitment form will be through a Google form survey that will be sent out in the communication next Wednesday.

If you have specific questions that you would like us to consider, please email covid19.info@orendaeducation.org. We will work on communicating answers to questions submitted through the survey and emailed to us.

We are committed to delivering high-quality learning in the safest environment for everyone. Thank you for your patience and support as we adapt how we deliver education. Stay safe and take care!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Carla Silber'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carla Silber
Superintendent/COO
Orenda Public Charter School District