



**To: Families of Okaloosa County School ESE Students**

**From: ESE and Student Services**

Our ESE department is working hard to find ways to meet each child's unique educational needs throughout the remainder of this school closure. Our motto is compassion and grace. Extend both to yourself and your child as we move forward through the challenges and opportunities of online learning. We are here to help make this process as smooth as possible.

School will be back in session on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. While some courses will be delivered through various online programs, for our ESE students other courses will continue with packets and assignments from your child's teacher. Okaloosa County School District is making electronic devices, such as iPads, laptops, and Chromebooks, available for families who don't have them at home. For elementary students (grades K-5) needing electronic devices, an iPad will be distributed. Laptops and Chromebooks will be issued to secondary students (grades 6-12). If you are in need of internet access, please contact your child's school and they will assist you.

For students on **Access Points** and preschool students with disabilities, teachers will provide lessons and activities on their *OCSD Assignment link* on their faculty page. These pages are located on individual school websites. For a directory of schools, click here → [School Directory](#). Find the Faculty and Staff page. The assignments will be posted under or to the side of the picture or name of your child's teacher. Schools will also provide printed materials to use at home that support the lessons and activities teachers are sharing. Expect our teachers, and paraprofessionals, to check in routinely to answer questions and provide support.

Elementary students on **general education standards** will continue learning English Language Arts and Math through a program called Odysseyware. Social Studies and Science classes will be continued through Studies Weekly and Pearson. Your child's teacher will post directions on how to access these programs and resources in their *OCSD Assignment links* located on school faculty pages.

Secondary students on **general education standards** will receive instruction through a program called Edgenuity. They will receive instruction in English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, and some elective courses through Edgenuity. For other elective classes, teachers will be uploading assignments to their OCSD Assignment link. Click on the link to find a welcome letter, instructions, and assignments for courses that are not being offered through Odysseyware and Edgenuity.

ESE teachers will continue to support students both online and by phone. Teachers will be communicating with students and parents on a routine basis. Online office hours will be posted in the OCSD Assignment link folders. (See instructions for accessing the OCSD Assignment links in the third paragraph.)

Using a blended approach of resources and activities, we will continue to offer support such as speech, language services, and occupational therapy. The activities follow guidance from the United States

Department of Education and can be completed at home. Service providers will be available to students and parents to answer questions, provide suggestions and feedback, and support students as they work toward their goals.

Do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher with additional questions. Expect teachers to reach out to you by the end of the week with specific details related to your child's education. Our ESE parent liaison, Brad Burnette, is also available to assist families with questions. He can be reached at [Brad.Burnett@okaloosaschools.com](mailto:Brad.Burnett@okaloosaschools.com). Please see the OCSD homepage for up-to-date information regarding Coronavirus and Resources for Online Learning at <https://www.okaloosaschools.com/>.

We know that this is unfamiliar territory for many of you and we are ready to provide assistance and support. Expect to find more detailed information in the teacher *OCSD Assignment links* by the end of the day Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. Again, we're all in this together. Don't hesitate to reach out for assistance. Teachers will conduct office hours to answer both student and parent questions.

For assistance with electronic devices, call the Technology Helpdesk at (850) 897-2966.

*"Moving Forward with Compassion and Grace"*