



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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TO: Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Carol Kelley, Superintendent of Schools

RE: Fall 2020 Transition Planning Updates - Weeks of July 27 and August 3, 2020

DATE: August 11, 2020

Virtual Town Hall

On July 27, District 97 hosted a virtual town hall to provide a brief overview of our remote learning plan for the 2020-21 school year and answer questions submitted by parents and guardians. A recording of the meeting is included below, along with a link to an FAQ document that covers the questions discussed during the meeting.

- [Recording: Virtual Information Session on Remote Learning in D97 \(July 27, 2020\)](#)
- [FAQ: Remote Learning 2.0 in District 97](#)

Community Child Care

District 97 is working with community partners to support the child care needs of our families and staff. We are currently partnering with three providers: Hephzibah, the Park District of Oak Park and By Discovery. Details about each program can be found [here](#).

The district will be providing financial assistance for any student who receives free or reduced lunch for at least Trimester 1. We will discuss the possibility of additional fee coverage with the Board of Education once plans are determined for the remainder of the school year. Details are provided at the point of online registration for each child care provider.

Distribution of Computing Devices

District 97 has received all 1,300 devices and has started the setup process. The tentative schedule for distribution is listed below, however, exact dates and times will be communicated by each building leader.

- Wednesday/Thursday, August 19 & 20 - Julian - 6th graders switching out iPads for Chromebooks
- Wednesday/Thursday, August 19 & 20 - Brooks - 6th graders switching out iPads for Chromebooks
- Wednesday, August 26 - Beye (All K-3 students)
- Wednesday, August 26 - Holmes (All K-3 students)
- Wednesday, August 26 - Hatch (All K-3 students)
- Thursday, August 27 - Lincoln (All K-3 students)
- Thursday, August 27 - Whittier (All K-3 students)
- Thursday, August 27 - Mann (All K-3 students)
- Friday, August 28 - Irving (All K-3 students)
- Friday, August 28 - Longfellow (All K-3 students)

Teachers Union MOU Update

Gina Herrmann, District 97 Sr. Director of Human Resources, led our negotiations effort with the teachers union to draft an MOU reflective of changes needed as a result of our shift to a remote learning environment.

Learning Models Update

District 97 shared a new Google site with staff this week that will house all of the work of the Learning Models committee. This site houses:

- Our professional learning plans
- Accelerated Learning Plans for all teacher teams
- A plan that outlines additional supports for students with disabilities, English Learners and students who receive tiered interventions
- A collection of essential tools for Remote Learning 2.0
- A collection of resources related to remote learning

We are planning to purchase and utilize three common assessment online tools this school year: EGSi (K-2), AFFIRM (1-5) and Mastery Connect (6-8). These tools will allow teacher teams to regularly monitor students' progress and mastery of essential benchmark standards.

SY21 Professional Learning Plan

District 97 announced its SY21 Professional Learning Plan to staff on July 30. The plan contained information about the work of the Professional Learning Subcommittee of the D97 Transition Team, as well as our goals for PL for next year, and the catalog of our August upcoming PL opportunities.

The learning events began the week of August 3. To date, we have had more than 300 staff members voluntarily sign-up for summer learning sessions.

Learning opportunities include sessions on Remote Learning 2.0, building classroom community, Zoom, and strategies for synchronous and asynchronous instruction.

Learning opportunities are not limited to staff; District 97 is hosting Parent University sessions on remote learning on August 13, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Finally, the Professional Learning Subcommittee is working on launching an online platform to track and manage professional learning hours for staff.

Student Supports

District 97 has identified ELA and Math resources for underserved students. Focus group sessions with parents have been held to gather feedback and suggestions on how best we can support our students with identified learning needs.

Social Emotional and Wellness

District 97 designed a Social-Emotional and Mental Needs Assessment survey with Hanover Research. Feedback on the tool was provided by D97's Social Emotional/Wellness transition team and our community partners.

The survey will be available to staff and families during the week of August 10. The ultimate goal is to learn what the needs of our staff and community are so that District 97 and community partners can design programming. We also hope to use this information to qualify for grants.

Finally, District 97 Culture and Climate coaches have started professional learning sessions for staff on building classroom community within virtual spaces.

Safety/Operations Protocols

The District 97 Buildings and Grounds Department has been working on a number of projects to prepare for a transition to on-site learning, when it is safe to do so.

- Staff have completed changes of HVAC filters; these will be changed monthly and documented via SchoolDude. Additionally, Buildings & Grounds have audited windows in each building and created work orders for any in need of repair.
- Water fountain spigots have been capped to prevent public use. Touchless bottle fillers will still be accessible for use.
- The district has received face masks for use when we transition back to in-person learning. Any outside organization using our facility for childcare will be asked to provide their own PPE and hand sanitizer.
- Staff have placed handwashing signs throughout each building.
- Buildings & Grounds Senior Director, Jeanne Keane has met with custodians regarding disinfecting.

- District 97 has created floor plans for socially distanced classrooms.