



July 6, 2020

Dear Odyssey Family,

We hope you are having a relaxing and peaceful summer with your children. We want to thank you for the support you provided during the last few months of the school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This was a challenge for everyone, but, together, we have made it through the year successfully. We miss our students and the regular flow of the school day and look forward to seeing them again as we reopen our campuses and welcome them back on **August 11**. We have been preparing all summer and our campuses are safe, clean, and ready! (If Brevard Public Schools decides to delay school start dates, please know we will follow their revised date, and notify you.)

Our aim is to bring our students and staff back as naturally as possible, so that learning is enjoyable and stress free, with a structure in place to minimize illness and the spread of COVID-19. Every department in our schools has developed specific safety procedures following recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE), local and state health departments, and the school district. We recognize that every one of our parents has a different perspective on COVID-19, so we are asking each family to proceed in the way they are most comfortable, and to communicate with us so that we can continue to support you. We will be entering into this new school year cautiously, but optimistic and very well-prepared.

We know that as parents, you are concerned with not only the safety of your children but also with the quality of education that your children will receive this upcoming year. To that end, the school administration has developed a **Student Intent to Return Survey** outlining three educational options for the first semester. These options include Brick and Mortar traditional onsite schooling with increased safety procedures; eLearning online (K-5 OCS Elementary and K-6 OPA only); and Edmentum (6-12 OCS Jr/Sr only). Completing this survey will greatly support our planning and help us prepare effectively for your student. Please click on the following link and complete by no later than **Wednesday, July 15**.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=geC1ctDBfU-C5T-pBR-vPCCcJUp-HJnKyYH6NLF7hUQOY0NjdBVFNEVVBTTjdSVVWUUVVONTRYRi4u>

In addition, there will be a **Parent Informational Meeting** on **Thursday, July 30**, at **7:00PM** to provide students and parents with all the latest information on the schools' reopening plans and available educational options for students. Please join us via zoom by clicking on the following link at the scheduled date and time:

<https://zoom.us/j/99567470901?pwd=c2dlS1dEcUJPS1YweGtPZ2ZtWExYZz09>

To ensure the safety of all students and staff, we are asking our parents and caregivers to monitor student temperatures daily, and to refrain from sending children to school if they are ill. Also, parents and caregivers will need to be prepared to pick up children promptly if the school calls to report that their child is sick. We are also asking parents to call us and notify us if there is a positive COVID-19 diagnosis in their families and to follow CDC guidelines for a 14-day quarantine. The school will follow up-to-date FLDOE and CDC guidelines, and will work directly with our local health department in regards to notification of parents and closure of classrooms and/or schools if needed. As an additional precaution, our schools will not be allowing visitors for the first 90 days, at a minimum. We are confident that by working in partnership with our community, we will get through this next year successfully.

We understand that COVID-19 is a potential concern for those students with underlying health conditions. If your child has a secondary health condition (asthma, diabetes, or immune system disorders, etc.), and you have questions, please contact your school administrator or guidance department so that we can work out the best educational plan for them.



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We would like to share with you just a few of the many things we are doing to prepare for our students' return. The schools have ordered thermal imagers, capable of taking the temperatures of 40-50 students at a time as students enter the building. All of our staff will be allocated clear face shields. Students and all staff will be allocated cloth masks. Please be aware that the schools will follow state and local mandates regarding the use of masks. Masks will be mandatory for students on the bus and also for students who get ill at school and are sent to the clinic. We have put cleaning and disinfecting procedures in place for each of our departments and areas of greatest concern--cafeteria, buses, classrooms, front desk, computer labs, physical education and recess areas, before and after care areas, and in Montessori Village Green classrooms to maximize a healthy, safe environment. New guidelines in place include hiring extra custodial staff to provide more in-depth cleaning with D-5, a cleaner known to kill corona virus. Furthermore, the school will follow a two-step process to clean and disinfect bus seats and high touch surfaces between bus runs. Additionally, hand sanitizers will be placed on each bus and there will be "isolation seats" for students that may be ill.

Odyssey will incorporate social distancing practices, to the degree that is possible and practical, in classrooms, hallways, and the cafeteria. Teachers will have hand sanitizer for students to use as they enter the classroom, and students will have assigned seats. Procedures have been put in place to clean and disinfect classroom furniture daily. Students will be facing one way for breakfast and lunch in our cafeteria, and some grade levels will be eating in their classrooms. Special teachers (like art and music) will visit classrooms, and students will not share materials. Playground equipment will be disinfected daily and frequently. Clinics will have a separate, divided area for students with fevers who are visibly ill. Classrooms will be disinfected promptly after notification of illness. Again, we will follow guidance from the CDC and local and state health departments to handle any COVID-19 cases in our schools.

We recognize that some parents may have differing opinions with regards to the steps the school must take to provide a safe reopening in August. We hope you understand the delicate balance the school must walk in addressing all viewpoints. We will continue to monitor numerous sources to help us make the best decisions. Although we have been very thorough with our plans, it is our intent to provide both our staff and students a calm and welcoming environment to settle, once again, into the joy of learning.

If I can be of any assistance, please contact me at [cortiz@greenappleschools.com](mailto:cortiz@greenappleschools.com) or contact the Principal of each campus:

Ms. Wendi Nolder (Eldron) at [nolderw@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:nolderw@odysseycharterschool.com),  
Dr. Monica Knight (Jr/Sr) at [knightm@odysseycharterschool.com](mailto:knightm@odysseycharterschool.com), and  
Ms. Pat Carvil (Associate Principal, OPA) at [carvilp@odysseyprepacademy.com](mailto:carvilp@odysseyprepacademy.com).

As always, we are honored that you have chosen our schools to educate your children--the most important resource our planet holds!

Sincerely,



Ms. Constance Ortiz  
CEO Green Apple School Management  
Founder, Odyssey Charter School, Inc.