



# SAMUEL OGLE

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## MIDDLE SCHOOL



### **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) by Parents** ***Prepared by Cameron Millspaugh, Principal***

In response to questions asked by many parents, this FAQ document is provided to help you better navigate the reopening of school for students for School Year 2021 - 2022.

1) If my child did not receive a school-issued chromebook in a previous distribution and have been using a device at home, how can they get one for this school year? Chromebooks are being distributed between now and September 8, 2021 by appointment at the school. Beginning on September 8th, the school technology personnel will work with students during the day to assign a device to them and the agreement paperwork will be sent home for completion and returned the next day. You can call 301-805-2641 to schedule an appointment.

2) Who are the Professional School Counselors?

6th Grade Counselor is Ms. Thicklen

7th Grade Counselor is Ms. Leftwich

8th Grade Counselor is Ms. Archibald

3) What are the desk and class sanitation protocols?

The school building services team has an electrostatic disinfectant sprayer that they will be using on a scheduled basis to maintain the sanitation of school areas. Teachers are encouraged to use a plastic alcohol spray bottle to wipe surfaces within their classroom as necessary to disinfect for student use. This is part of our cleanliness efforts and our Green School efforts.

4) How can I get my child's schedule?

The schedules are in schoolmax. In order to access the schedule, you will need to change the term to "all" so you can see the schedule.

5) What is the math fluency course?

Math Fluency is a course we are providing to students as an opportunity to rebuild math skills across the school and address any learning loss as a result of distance learning. Math fluency is an important part of our student needs assessment and therefore you see it as a course in addition to their regular math class.

6) Where will the students eat lunch?

Currently, students will be assigned to eat lunch in the cafeteria. We will be assessing the space for social distancing in that location and if necessary, we will adjust or act to modify this arrangement depending on our assessment of student safety measures.

7) Will there be sports or other activities?

We have assigned an athletic director for the school year. Our AD will be attending meetings as planned with the district and provide updates on athletes and opportunities as they are announced and decided upon for this year.

Other activities will be determined by the district or the school depending on the level of activity offered. Some PSAT opportunities and other activities will continue to be offered virtually.

8) Who assigns AVID Strategies to the schedule?

Our Master Schedulers assign AVID Strategies to the schedule. AVID is a signature program at Samuel Ogle as we work to introduce and encourage all students to Write, Inquire about learning, Collaborate with each other, Organize their work and Read for information. These strategies courses help all students become more college and career ready as is part of our school vision.

9) Are microwaves available for students?

Not at this time.

10) Will students be required to dress for Physical Education Classes in a locker room? Students will not be required to change for Physical Education. They should have clothing that allows for free movement on days when they have their Physical Education classes and they should have appropriate footwear such as tennis shoes for their activities. Please discourage jewelry on those class days so nothing is broken, lost, etc.

11) What is the school position on a clear face shield for students in addition to a mask? Can students wear one? If students feel more comfortable wearing a face shield in addition to their mask, that will be permissible. This is something that should be provided from home and may be something that a child wishes to wear while eating lunch or breakfast also. Masks are still required and face shields are not a replacement for the masks.

12) How will the 3-feet spacing work in classrooms with large class sizes?

Teachers are designing and arranging their classrooms with the 3-foot rule in mind. The 3-foot rule for us is from the center of a student to the center of another student. The configurations of rooms and student seats are individually based by the instructor to ensure adequate distance is between each student. This is where the mitigation of transmission is decreased by the use of the mask (or if students wish to double-mask), possible vaccination, proper ventilation in the rooms with windows or doors and the appropriate

filtration in the school is used to reduce any spread of possible germs, or virus particles.

- 13) Will students need their pin numbers or need to put money on their meal accounts?

Currently, students will not be using the pin numbers and meals will be free. They will be “grab-and-go style.” Breakfast will be available in the morning in the cafeteria. Lunch will be served daily through the serving lines. The menu will be shared with students during morning announcements and should be available online. A-La-Cart will not be open at this time. Microwaves will not be available for students at this time.

- 14) Will students need to bring their laptops daily?

Yes. Laptops, specifically their school-issued chromebooks are listed as a school supply time along with their charges. These should be brought to school daily as teachers may be using them in their lesson planning for instruction. (Refer back to question # 1 if they do not have a school-issued device.)

- 15) Will students be changing classes?

Yes, the students will be changing classes after each mod.

- 16) If students are not using their lockers, how will they carry their musical instruments with their backpacks?

Students will be permitted to drop off their musical instruments in that classroom at the beginning of the day.

- 17) When is orientation?

Orientation is on Friday September 3, 2021 from 9:30am to 12:50pm. Orientation is in-person for students learning in-person. Students in the Virtual or Online Campus programs will not be attending orientation.

18) Can students bring their own water bottles?

Water bottles will be provided to students. We have had over 300 cases delivered last week and have placed some of these cases in each classroom.

19) Will students be using lockers?

Students will not be using lockers at the beginning of the school year.

20) How can I join the PTA?

We will have PTA information coming out in September. Right now our focus will be to open schools and compile a list of those interested in joining the PTA. Once school is open and the beginning of the year has developed, we will then be establishing our PTA program.