

Odessa Public School

A BIG WELCOME TO ALL OPS TIGER FAMILIES!



September EVENTS at ODESSA:

September 3rd - P.A. Day (No School for Tigers)

September 4th - First Day of School!!!

September 17th - School Council Meeting and Election

(6:30 pm - 7:30 pm)

September 26th - OPS Open House

Welcome Back Newsletter: August 29th, 2024

Dear Odessa Families,

The countdown is on! All staff at OPS are excited to welcome the Tigers back. We are working diligently by spending time making curriculum plans and preparing classrooms for some amazing learning ahead! Shout out as well to all OPS Custodial Staff for their hard work to make the school spotless!! Mr. Denesuik and Mr. Brash, we send our gratitude to you and team! Please see the significant dates shared above and mark your calendars for OPS's Open House on Thursday, September 26th. School Council Elections will take place at the first meeting on September 17th. Please see below for details, and we encourage all families to join us for collaboration and support. We are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead with all Tigers!

The school is open for registration. Stop by the office or call us at: 613-386-3022.

Routines - Wednesday, September 4th, 2024:

On the first day of school, your child/children will be supported with the following:

- Classrooms lines which will have signs with grades/staff names attached to pylons.
- Playgrounds organized into Primary and Primary/Junior Spaces
- Primary Yards: Grades 1 and 2 plus Grade 2/3 (SE side of school) ; Primary /Junior Yard: Grades 3, 4, 5, 6 (N side of school)

- OPS's caring staff-on-hand supervising and helping students find classrooms
- Families - will receive class placements prior to Wednesday, September 4th

***Kindergarten Families:** We have a new Meet and Drop Off Area! The Kindergarten Play Space is Complete! All junior and senior kindergarten students will meet at the gates of the new playground area designated for kindergarten.

Construction Updates:

As you know, Odessa P.S. and Odessa have both undergone some significant changes since June, and we would like to assure you of some measures that have been put into place to keep our students safe.

Playground: The OPS Primary Playground is finished! Students from kindergarten to grade 2 will access this space for entry times and nutrition breaks.

Main Street (Highway #2) Construction: In consultation with Loyalist Township and OPS/ESS/LDSB, a temporary, fenced-in sidewalk has been created for students on the north side of the street, from ESS to OPS. Once students have crossed the street, they will be guided through this fenced area to safely arrive at school.

- Entrance to bus area will be closed on Main Street (Highway #2) for pedestrian safety
- Loyalist Township & ESS/OPS(LDSB) partnered to ensure crossing guards are available
- Crossing Guard/supervision will be in front of Main Street (Hwy #2) and ESS for student crossing
- Crossing Guard/supervision will be at the intersection of Durham Street and Main Street (Hwy #2)
- Students will be supported by staff between 7:50 am - 8:10 am, and 2:25 pm - 2:45 pm

Bus Routines: Tri-Board has a system in place for drop off and pick up directions this year as the township undergoes construction. The buses will still meet in the former tennis court area, and enter/exit onto Durham Street.

Drop Off and Pick Up Locations by Car: We understand that families have busy schedules and routines, but we ask that the map provided below continue to be the recommended flow of traffic, in particular during this period of construction. Staff will be outside to assist during entry and dismissal times.

***BUSES** will be directed through this traffic route from North Street, in order to access the tennis court/bus area. We highly recommend avoiding a turn during this time onto Durham Street from Main Street (Hwy #2).

Thanks for your ongoing understanding and patience as these improvements transpire!

OPS Traffic Map - Recommended Traffic Flow - Drop-off and Pick-up Times



2024-2025 OPS Staff List

A BIG welcome to our new Tiger Staff!

Mr. Schneider, Mr. Legge, Mrs. Nelson Palmer, Ms. Thrower-Feeney, Mrs. Tahamtan, Mr. Ijaz, and Ms. Belliveau.

Name	Grade/Class
Mrs. Byers/Mrs. Summers	Kindergarten: KA
Mrs. Brooks/Mrs. Brown	Kindergarten: KB
Mrs. Dafoe/Mrs. Grant	Kindergarten: KC
Mr. Schneider	Grade 1/2
Ms. King	Grade 1
Mrs. Hancock	Grade 1
Mrs. Carrier	Grade 2
Mrs. Zarzecki	Grades 2/3
Ms. McLeod	Grade 3
Mr. Legge	Grade 3/4
Ms. Young	Grade 4
Mrs. Beattie	Grade 5
Mr. Beacock	Grade 5/6
Mrs. Allen	Grade 6
Mr. Ijaz, Mrs. Bush	Planning Time Teacher
Mme. Quance, Mr. Fields-Young, Mrs. Pengally, TBA	Core French
Mrs. Nelson Palmer	IST Teacher
Ms. Watkins Mrs. Maracle-York	Student Support Teacher Student Support Counselor
Mr. Denesuik, Mr. Brash	Custodial Team (OPS)

Mrs. Grigg, Mrs. Decaire, Ms. Thrower Feenev	Kindergarten Support
Mrs. McAuley, Mrs. Tahamtan, Mrs. Grant, Ms. Belliveau	Primary/Junior Support
Ms. Monteith, Mrs. Bush, Mrs. Tucker	Administrative Team - P/VP/Office Manager
Ms. Collie, Mrs. Connelly	STEA Staff

School Council - Involvement and Elections

Odessa School Council plays a vital role in enhancing the educational experience for students, and we invite you to become an integral part of this collaborative effort. Families are an essential part of the school community, and your involvement in the School Council can contribute to creating a positive and enriching environment for children. You can be involved by being an elected member of the committee, or simply by attending committee meetings and volunteering at events. Please join the School Council on Tuesday, September 17th from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm. Looking forward to seeing you there! During this time, the following roles will be discussed and decided:

Chair – Secretary – Treasurer – Fundraising Coordinator
Communications Representative – Indigenous Representative
PIC Representative – Community Representative Member

Cell Phone Policy at OPS

The provincial government has implemented a consistent cell phone policy throughout the province, starting on September 1st, 2024. OPS will have the following expectation for the upcoming school year:

- Students in kindergarten to Grade 6 must keep phones on silent and out of sight for the entire school day, unless explicitly permitted by an educator.

*Please note: a cell phone policy was created at OPS for the 2023-2024 year, so this will not be a significant change for our students. Please continue to have conversations with your families regarding cell phone use. We want to maximize the use of classroom instructional time while at school, and avoid the distractions caused by personal cell phone use.

Odessa Public School – Daily Schedule

Please note that students are not supervised until 7:50 am each morning. The instructional day is set up to provide 100 instructional minute blocks during three periods of the day. If your child requires a pickup, or is being dropped off, please check into the office so they are notified. To ensure safety, families must report to the office and are not permitted to go directly to classrooms. If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the Odessa P.S. office staff.

7:50 am – 8:05 am – Supervision Begins

8:05 am – Instructional Day Begins

9:45 am – 10:25 am – Recess and Nutrition Break #1

12:05 pm – 12:45 pm – Recess and Nutrition Break #2

2:25 pm – Instructional Day Ends



See you soon!!!!
Wednesday, September 4th