

2021-2022 Start of School Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What day does school start?

A: The first day of school is Tuesday, August 10, 2021. School hours are 7:05 am-2:05 pm.

Q: When can students get their schedules?

A: Student schedules are typically available one to two days before the start of school. They are available on Infinite Campus. If you have forgotten your Infinite Campus password you can contact <https://tinyurl.com/johspassword>

Q: Will there be an Orientation before the beginning of the school year?

A: Yes. There will be an Open House style drop in Orientation for Freshman and Transfer students on Wednesday August 4 from 4 – 6 PM. This is an optional visit to get feel for the campus and get information about a day in the life of an Overton student. Follow our socials for more details.

Q: Will classes be conducted all on computers again this year? Will I need school supplies?

A: Students should bring their MNPS issued laptop to school every day. Classes will take place in-person but teachers will continue to use Schoology to post content and students will need to submit some assignments online. More information about device support will be posted here soon. Typical school supplies are still useful and lockers will be available again this year, if needed.

Q: How will my student know how to navigate the school?

A: We will post a comprehensive teacher list and room numbers here before school starts. A map of the rooms for both upstairs and downstairs can be seen [here](#). Students can access their schedule before school starts and are encouraged have a copy of their classes and classes and room number.

Q: What kind of schedule will students have on the first day?

A: Students will start with a full day of school (7:05-2:05) attending their four A Day classes. When they arrive at school on Tuesday morning, there will be individuals posted around the school to help each student know where to go for their A1 class. Students will attend all B Day classes on Wednesday, August 11. There will also be teachers in the hallways to help. Students should open their Infinite Campus app and take a screen shot of their schedule. The student should identify their 4th period class and their class and time period specific lunch period will be posted here before school starts.

Q: What if my student needs a change to their schedule?

A: A link for a schedule change request will be made available to students on the first day of school. While counselors love to meet with students in person, during the first ten days, we ask that returning students follow the online request process for preference changes. The period for requesting a schedule review is August 10th – August 20th. A counselor will communicate with the student no later than August 25th on the status of his/her request.

Q: How will student drop off, parking, and buses be organized?

A: The front parking lot has been configured to provide an organized flow of traffic. Instructions on how to enter/exit are [here](#) Students can park only in the designated student lot.

Q: Will student parking be assigned?

A: Parking in the student lot is on a first come, first served basis. All eligible students must register their vehicle and display their current decal in the rear window. Any un-registered car is subject to being towed at the owner's expense. Any student who does not meet good standing requirements will lose his/her parking privilege. Parking privilege eligibility guidelines and application can be found [here](#) before school begins.

Q: How does my child find out about morning and afternoon buses?

A: You can find your child's bus number, bus stop, and route [here](#). At dismissal, the bus lineup can be found by clicking [here](#).

Q: What if the bus doesn't show up on time in the morning?

A: It is recommended that students be at the bus stop at least 10 minutes before their scheduled pickup time and wait at least 10 minutes beyond the regularly scheduled time before assuming there is a delay. Call the Family Information Center at 259-INFO (4636) if your bus is late. The dispatchers will contact the driver to find out the bus status. In the case of a mechanical breakdown, a backup bus will be dispatched immediately. Students should remain at the bus stop until the backup bus arrives.

Q: What if I don't live within the existing bus routes, but my child needs to ride the bus to school?

A: You will need to fill out the request form [here](#). After you have completed the required information, bring it to the school. You will be notified if your requested was able to be fulfilled.

Q: What if my child needs to use a different bus stop other than the one that is assigned to my address?

A: If you need to have your child ride the bus to a different location on a continuing basis, please fill out the Alternate Transportation form [here](#). Bring it to the school and we will send it to the transportation office.

Q: How will breakfast and lunch be organized this year?

A: All meals will be available for students at no cost. Breakfast will be served in the cafeteria from 6:45-7:00 each day. Students will have a 30-minute lunch during fourth period. The lunch schedule can be found [here](#). More information about MNPS' Food Service can be found [here](#).

Q: Where can I find permission forms that pertain to my child?

A: The MNPS Student handbook is in digital format and can be found [here](#). The handbook is available in multiple languages. Follow prompts for the language of your choice at the top of the webpage screen. There are several forms that need to be completed by the parent. Please take the time to fill out these forms and return them to the school. The information is valuable to Overton and MNPS.

Q: How will I be made aware of school events?

We have Twitter and Instagram accounts. You may follow us on Twitter using [@OvertonMNPS](#) or on Instagram at [@overtonbobcats](#). A weekly newsletter will be sent via email on Mondays and Dr. Pittman will make call outs as necessary. There is a calendar of events on the Overton MNPS Website that can be found [here](#).

Q: Is there a parent organization? How can I be involved at school?

A: We welcome parents to chime in on surveys, participate on our Career Academy Advisory Boards, accompany students on experiential learning activities/field trips, attend events, participate in our School Improvement and Budget Planning, and stay connected with faculty and staff as needed. Executive Principal, Jill Pittman, welcomes parent feedback and can be reached at Jill.Pittman@mnps.org. Our Family Engagement Specialists are working to help us meet our goal of ensuring that every family has at least one meaningful and positive connection to our school. You can reach out to Deirdre Demana deirdre.demana@mnps.org and/or Samuel Montoya samuel.Montoya@mnps.org with your questions and interests.

Q: How can I keep up with my student's academic progress?

A: We will host "Meet the Teacher" nights each semester so that families have an opportunity to learn about all class expectations and supports. There are two Parent-Conference Days on the [district calendar](#), but there is always opportunity for individual communication as needed. Each teacher will post course content on the Schoology platform, which is viewable by parents and students. A list of staff emails can be found [here](#). All staff are expected to return phone calls and emails promptly.

Q: When will I find out information specific to my senior?

A: Information specific to seniors can come from different sources. Some senior information can be found on the class Instagram page [@johs_2022](#). Information specifically from the school will be provided in a frequently asked questions document once the school year begins.

Q: What is the availability of activities/clubs?

A: Overton has opportunities for students to become involved in a variety of activities, including academic, career/technical, and service organizations. A detailed activities list will be available once school starts.

Q: Whom do we contact regarding sports?

A: John Overton High School is proud to offer a wide range of athletic opportunities for our students. Contact any of our coaches with questions regarding their sport [here](#). Please contact our athletic director, Kim Gaines, at lisa.gaines@mnps.org if you have questions.

Q: Do we have to wear masks at school?

A: Vaccinated individuals are not required to wear masks. The district strongly encourages any student or staff member who is not vaccinated against COVID-19 to wear their mask while indoors, especially those who have underlying health conditions. For more detailed information regarding the full COVID policy of Metro Nashville Public Schools, please visit the MNPS website [here](#).

Q: What do I do if my student needs a permit paper for a TN Learner Driving Permit?

A: Any student wishing to test for their driver permit must see their academy office manager for the required form. Positive attendance and academics are required, per the State DMV. If your student's grades or attendance are not acceptable, they must wait until the next semester to show improvement before receiving their permit form.