

# Orting High School Covid FAQ

## All OHS students

### ***Are students going to be able to get their second semester credits?***

What we know: Students will not be asked to make up any days beyond June 19th and will not have to repeat an extra semester due to this closure. Students who are not able to access digital learning opportunities provided by teachers will not be negatively impacted on their transcript.

What don't yet know: How colleges will adjust their acceptance policies in light of school closures across the country.

What you should know: We are involved in conversations at the state level to advocate for Orting students and committed to ensuring all students remain on track to graduate.

We will be posting more info on our website, social media, and emails to parents as it is communicated by the state and decisions are made by the OSD School Board.

### ***Will we be graded?***

Teachers are working inside Google Classroom and providing some general feedback to classes who complete the enrichment opportunities they provide families. Feedback will not be in the form of grades at this time, as work is for enrichment, reteaching, and extension. If letter grades are to be used in the future, that will be clearly communicated to students and families.

### ***What should I be doing to support my student at home?***

**Your first concern should be looking after the basic needs of your family.**

- Make sure your student knows they are safe, they have food, and their mental health is a place where they can access enrichment opportunities. If any of these are not in place, contact your school counselor for assistance (A-K, [smiths@orting.wednet.edu](mailto:smiths@orting.wednet.edu) or L-Z [matzl@orting.wednet.edu](mailto:matzl@orting.wednet.edu) ).

**If those are in place, please begin to ask your student to logon to their Google Classroom each day.**

- They should have between 0-3 hours of work a day, depending on their class schedule and grade. Many of these learning opportunities will be unlike what they are used to, and may include videotaping and interacting with members of your family or their environment. Our teachers are being trained on creating engaging, unique learning experiences for your students during a difficult time. Please be active participants with your student and have grace for this new work as it develops.

**All families should be ensuring that daily independent reading (novel, magazine, articles, etc.) is happening as many days as possible, for at least 15-30 minutes a weekday.**

- All current research makes a strong correlation between future academic success, happiness, cognitive abilities and students time reading independently. For some households beginning with someone reading aloud to your teenager, or just reading for

10 minutes, may be where you start to build stamina, gradually releasing responsibility and lengthening reading sessions, as time moves on. This single activity will be second only to your student's basic needs being met. If your family can do nothing else...read!

***What about AP and College in the High School?***

Advanced Placement testing has been modified to a 45-minute online test, with the last portion of this year's materials left off the test. Questions will be "free-response" only. More AP testing information can be found with your teacher, or on the College Board website [here](#).

College in The High School (UW and CWU) will continue to cover their curriculum. Our teachers are adjunct professors and working closely with our university partners to develop a plan to complete their college courses with your student. Students will receive grades per university procedures. Please contact your teacher in Google Classroom with any questions.

***What about access to Running Start, Pierce County Skills Center (PCSC) and post-secondary information?***

Please see our Counseling page of our website [here](#). PCSC has communicated that they will begin grading students. Please contact your PCSC instructor for further information.

***What if I have questions?***

Your first avenue is for students to see teachers in Google Classroom, that is their "home base". If it is an adult question, contact a staff member by email. Information and email are on our homepage [here](#).

## **Seniors**

***Is there still going to be a graduation ceremony?***

We are continuing to hold our rentals of staging, seating, screen, etc. for June 11th, as the Governor left a small hope that we may hold those events. In the event that the stay-at-home or gathering restrictions are still in effect, we will look at a summer graduation date. If the orders extend beyond July/August, we will look at alternative options for digital or safe graduation ceremonies. Already the community is reaching out with some fun and innovative ideas. As we move later in this shutdown, feel free to send those ideas through to me at [friesc@orting.wednet.edu](mailto:friesc@orting.wednet.edu).

***What about my senior who has extenuating circumstances (eg. lack of internet access, illness)?***

The Washington State Board of Education(SBE) with the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) have made available some avenues to assist students with extenuating circumstances. Please [contact your counselor](#) if you are not able to access any educational opportunities at this time.

***What requirements are still required for graduation?***

All seniors must complete a resume and a HSBP that accurately reflects their future plans. All resumes must be sent to [bergenj@orting.wednet.edu](mailto:bergenj@orting.wednet.edu). Ms. Nelson will contact you with information about completing your HSBP sheet.

***Are any local graduation requirements waived for seniors?***

- The job shadow requirement will be waived for any senior who did not complete it prior to March 13th.
- The community service hour requirement will be waived for the Class of 2020. Although, seniors are encouraged to login to [gotranseo.com](http://gotranseo.com) and record any hours they have put in, both in this time of community need and prior to this crisis. Those hours will be something we can reflect on as a village with how we came together here in Orting. They also look great on your resume for future employers and institutions.
- The High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP) presentation will be waived if school does not resume by May 1, 2020 for the current seniors who have not yet presented.

***What about Prom, Senior Activity Day, Senior Awards Night?***

As school is closed, these activities must also be cancelled. We will continue to look into creative ideas to celebrate our students in these milestone activities. Many families are already coming up with unique ways to celebrate students in the home or digitally.

***What about my Jostens order?***

Jostens has reached out to let me know that they are offering (for \$10) to send you your announcements and paper goods in the mail. They will wait on cap and gown, but can send announcements in case the timing is so close, you want to send your announcements out before an anticipated graduation. Jostens is a private company, and not part of the OSD. Reach out to the company here for questions and concerns.

***What about access to scholarships, FAFSA, and post-secondary information?***

Please see our Counseling page of our website [here](#).

***Why did this have to happen our senior year?***

In everyone's life, we live through historical events. This senior class will have a historical senior year. It is rare to live through an event that is unique enough to realize you are in it. Seize that moment. You will forever have the memories of your perseverance, fortitude, and selflessness that occurred during a national pandemic. You are writing the story of that senior year. What will you do with this to make it a positive memory? How will you help others during this time? Will the OHS Class of 2020 make a historic mark in this community...that is to still to be decided.