

**Orlando Science Schools (OSS) FAMILY CONTRACT 2022-2023**  
**2600 Technology Drive Orlando, FL 32804**  
**-School Copy-**

**Student's Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade** \_\_\_\_\_ **1<sup>st</sup> Period Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**I/WE, THE PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) OF THE ABOVE-NAMED STUDENT, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE ENROLLMENT OF MY/OUR CHILD IN THE ORLANDO SCIENCE SCHOOLS DO HEREBY AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:**

- I will help the school to make learning a primary occupation for my child.
- I will send my child to school on time, healthy, clean and prepared to learn.
- I will ensure that my child is dressed and groomed according to the dress code of the OSS.
- I will supervise my child's homework to ensure that all assignments are completed on schedule.
- I will keep the OSS informed of a phone number, email, and physical address where I can be reached during daytime hours.
- I will encourage my child to participate in the school-organized volunteer community activities since these kinds of activities are an important part of the learning experience.
- I will meet with my child's teacher and/or the administration as requested.
- I will take responsibility for the behavior of my child in the school.
- I understand that Orlando Science Schools is governed by a Board of Directors.
- I understand that the OSS administration has the authority to suspend or to recommend expelling the student from the OSS if the student's behavior violates the Code of Conduct and/or the parent(s)/guardian(s) fails to take responsibility for the conduct of the student and/or fails to cooperate with the OSS to help in correcting the student's behavior.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to stay informed of official announcements made through the OSS weekly newsletter and/or the OSS website at [www.OrlandoScience.org](http://www.OrlandoScience.org).
- I understand that it is my responsibility to review my child's report cards issued by the school.
- I understand that this contract is an agreement with all other parents in the school to support the faculty, staff, and the volunteers as they work to help my child be a productive member of the community.
- I will ensure that my child is carrying this student agenda every day at school.
- I understand that another student violating dress code does not excuse or prevent the issuance of consequences to my student for violating dress code.
- I understand school drop off, pick up and traffic circulation policies and I will follow these rules and policies with courtesy.
- I agree with the terms and conditions of OSS Student and parent Handbook and OCPS Student Code of Conduct.

**PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S)**

I/We, the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the above-named student, have reviewed the Orlando Science Schools Student & Parent Handbook with my/our child. I/We have read, understand, and agree to the entire Student and Parent Handbook including the Family Contract. I/We agree to support Orlando Science Schools by volunteering at the school to the degree possible, communicating regularly with my/our child's teacher(s), and promoting positive educational practices at home with my/our child by providing ongoing supervision and guidance with homework and school related projects. I/We have received the OSS Contact Information Sheet that was supplied with my/our child's student agenda.

**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**STUDENT**

I have thoroughly reviewed and agree to abide by each of the policies, procedures and expectations outlined in the Orlando Science Schools Student & Parent Handbook and Orange County Public Schools' Student Code of Conduct. I have read and understand the Code of Conduct, Discipline Plan, and the Family Contract and agree to uphold its tenets. I understand that failure to do so may result in my expulsion.

**Student's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Families are expected to read and discuss the OSS Student & Parent Handbook including the Code of Conduct, the Discipline Plan, and this document and indicate both understanding and acceptance of these by signing and dating.

**The due date and format of the Parent/Student Family Contract Acknowledgement Form submission will be announced when the school year starts.**

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An Orange County Public  
Charter School

# Orlando Science Schools

2022 - 2023

Student & Parent Handbook

(Revised June 15, 2022)

***This agenda belongs to:***

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_



**PLEASE NOTE:** The front cover is sensitive to extreme heat. Do not leave in direct sunlight!

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**Notice:** It is understood that this handbook cannot cover every aspect relating to the functions, procedures, and policies at Orlando Science Schools. Therefore, because OSS is a Charter School in the Orange County Public Schools System, any situation not specifically referred to in this handbook shall fall under the guidelines set forth by Orange County Public Schools' Policies and Procedures in the 2022-2023 Code of Student Conduct. **Orlando Science Schools has the right to change or update any policy or procedure based upon the need to implement temporary educational programs and models. The updates will be shared with families and students accordingly.**

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# Orlando Science Schools

## Core Values



# ORCAS

**O**utreach towards community

**R**espect and compassion for all

**C**elebrate diversity

**A**dvocate for a safe learning environment

**S**trive for excellence within a stimulating environment

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## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

*Dear Parents and Students,*

*Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year at **Orlando Science Schools**! This new school year means a new beginning and new future. The administrative team is excited about the coming school year, and the staff at Orlando Science Schools is caring, competent, dedicated, and willing to assist you. We are working very hard to provide the best possible learning climate for students.*

*We believe that education is a shared responsibility, and that the successful operation of a school depends on the cooperation of everyone concerned: students, parents, and staff. The mission of the **Orlando Science Schools** is to create a partnership among the members of this triad. Each of us is responsible for doing our part to make our school a place where we can work and have fun together in harmony.*

***Orlando Science Schools** reflects all of us. All our policies are intended to provide a safe and orderly environment that will be conducive to learning. Our faculty and staff look forward to sharing their expertise in academics, special programs, and extracurricular activities. We encourage you to get to know your school, its programs, activities, and schedule. Become an active participant in our school. Get involved through classes, clubs, and activities.*

*This handbook is an overview of our school's mission, guidelines, and services. It is an essential reference book describing what we expect and how the school operates. Read it carefully, discuss it with your family, and let it act as a guide for your effective involvement in all parts of the school. It has been written to provide students and parents with the information that will make this year purposeful and rewarding in every aspect. When you are finished reviewing this handbook, please sign, date, and return the Family Contract indicating your understanding and acceptance of its contents. Keep this handbook because you will use this information throughout the school year.*

*On behalf of the entire **Orlando Science Schools** staff and community, best wishes for a great 2022-2023 school year!*

*Go Orcas, Strive for Excellence!*

*Sincerely,*

*Nicholas Koebe*

Mr. Nicholas Koebe  
Principal  
Orlando Science Schools - High School

## 2022-2023 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Weekday(s)	Date(s)	Event
Tuesday-Tuesday	August 2-9	Pre-Planning August 3 Professional Development Day
Wednesday	August 10	First Day of School
Monday	September 5	Labor Day Holiday
Thursday	October 6	End of First Marking Period
Friday	October 7	Teacher Workday/Student Holiday
Monday	October 10	Begin Second Marking Period
Friday	October 28	Teacher Professional Day/Student Holiday/Teacher Non-Workday
Monday-Friday	November 21-25	Thanksgiving Break
Friday	December 16	End of Second Marking Period
Two Weeks	December 19-January 2	Winter Break
Tuesday	January 3	Teacher Workday/Student Holiday
Wednesday	January 4	Begin Third Marking Period Begin Second Semester
Monday	January 16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (Schools and District Offices Closed)
Monday	February 20	Presidents' Day Holiday (Schools Closed/District Offices Open)
Thursday	March 9	End of Third Marking Period
Friday	March 10	Teacher Workday/Student Holiday
Monday-Friday	March 13-17	Spring Break (Schools Closed/District Offices Open)
Monday	March 20	Begin Fourth Marking Period
Friday	May 26	End of Fourth Marking Period/Last Day of School
Monday	May 29	Memorial Day Holiday (Schools and District Offices Closed)
Tuesday-Wednesday	May 30-31	Post-Planning

**Note:** The dates may change based upon the final OCPS school calendar updates in the 2022-2023 School Year. These changes will be shared with parents/guardians accordingly.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Orlando Science Middle/High Charter School is to provide students with a well-rounded education with special emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) and Reading in the light of research based, proven and innovative instructional methods in a stimulating environment. The purpose of OSS is to prepare students to reach the maximum potential in all subjects with special emphasis on mathematics, science, and reading, using a researched-based successful curriculum. Students will be prepared to become productive and responsible citizens through their experience and completion of this exemplary educational program.

## DUE PROCESS AND STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES & RIGHTS

All students at OSS are entitled to the rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights, and their rights will not knowingly be denied by the required code of conduct or by any disciplinary actions taken by the school. Any student, who exhibits any of the unacceptable student behaviors or Conduct Violations listed in this handbook, or added to this list later, will suffer immediate consequences. These consequences range from notification of parents, isolation, detention, and emergency removal from a school activity, to suspension, expulsion, and criminal prosecution. In all instances, OSS's policies and procedures governing due process for suspensions and expulsions will follow Orange County Public Schools Board Policies. All students at OSS have the right to feel physically, emotionally, and intellectually safe. Therefore, if at any time you feel you are the subject of harassment, hazing, threats, or other intimidating behavior, you should immediately speak to an administrator about the problem. The situation will be investigated as soon as possible. All reports like this will be kept completely confidential.

### STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

- To be caring and honest,
- To do his or her best to learn and master all he/she can,
- To respect school rules, regulations, and policies,
- To be sure that personal expressions do not interfere with the rights of others,
- To follow state law and school policies concerning substance abuse,
- To respect and protect the personal and property rights of others and of the school,
- To treat all members of the community with full respect, fairness, and courtesy,
- To abide by all the expectations of the school and its community,
- To follow the prescribed guidelines for participation in school activities, AND
- To adhere to due process procedures.

### STUDENTS' RIGHTS

- To feel safe in the school environment,
- To take full advantage of the learning opportunities,
- To work in an environment free from disruptions,
- To express his or her opinions, ideas, thoughts, and concerns,
- To have a healthy environment that is smoke alcohol, and drug free,
- To use school resources and facilities for self-betterment under appropriate supervision,
- To expect courtesy, fairness, and respect from all members of the community,
- To be informed of all expectations and responsibilities,
- To take part in a variety of school activities, AND
- To have the right to due process.

Similarly, if you are concerned about the safety of a student who seems to be the subject of harassment, hazing, or threats, you should immediately speak to an administrator about the problem. The situation will be investigated as soon as possible, and reports will be kept completely confidential.

## Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Sex Discrimination

In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Board Policy JB, titled "Equal Educational Opportunities," OCPS and OSS is committed to protecting its students, employees, and applicants for admission from sex discrimination, including discrimination based on gender identity or failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity. OCPS and OSS believes that all students and employees are entitled to a safe, equitable, and harassment-free school experience. Substantiated allegations of discrimination will not be tolerated and shall be just cause for disciplinary action. Any student who alleges sex discrimination by another student may use the school's student grievance procedure or may complain directly to the Title IX Coordinator.

## Bullying and Harassment

In accordance with Section 1006.147, Florida Statutes, OCPS Board Policy ADD, titled "Safe Schools," and OCPS Board Policy JB, titled, "Equal Educational Opportunities," the Board, and OSS, is committed to protecting its students, employees, and applicants for admission, from bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or discrimination for any reason and of any type. The Board, and OSS, believes that all students and employees are entitled to a safe, equitable, and harassment-free school experience. Substantiated allegations of bullying, harassment, or discrimination will not be tolerated and shall be just cause for disciplinary action. In addition, although unsubstantiated bullying and harassment do not result in disciplinary action, the unsubstantiated bullying and harassment must be documented and reported to the Florida Department of Education through the requirements of the School Environment and Incident Reporting (SESIR) structure. Any student who alleges bullying or harassment by another student may use the school's student grievance procedure or may complain directly to the principal or designee.

## Hope Scholarship:

The Hope Scholarship is for students in grades kindergarten through 12 who are enrolled in a Florida public school and have been bullied, harassed, assaulted, threatened, and or other violent acts to transfer to another public school or enroll in another approved private school. The parent or guardians shall request additional information in instances where this has occurred. More information can be found here: [www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/k-12-scholarship-programs/hope/](http://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/k-12-scholarship-programs/hope/)

## ATTENDANCE

### Absences and Tardiness

OSS recognizes two kinds of absences and tardiness: excused and unexcused. Please read through the definitions of each carefully so that you understand what you and your parents' or guardians' responsibilities are. Also, you need to be very aware of your responsibilities regarding homework, quizzes, and tests when you have an excused absence and the consequences for unexcused absences.

### Excused Absences

OSS accepts only the following as excusable reasons for absence from school. **Parents or guardians must notify the school in the morning on any day their child is not attending.** The excuse shall be submitted to the school office and filed as part of the student's school record. An excuse for absence from school may be approved for one or more of the following reasons or conditions:

**Personal Illness:** Personal illness of the student or when attendance in school would endanger the health of the student or the health of others is excused. Upon the student's return to school, appropriate medical documentation is required within three days of the absence(s). Your parent or guardian should call the school each morning you are home ill. **When you return to school, you must bring an explanatory note from your parent or guardian, or it will be an unexcused absence.** The school may require a doctor's confirmation if the student has 3 or more medical excused absences.

**Serious Illness or Death in the Family:** Serious illness or death in student's immediate family necessitating the absence. In the case of serious illness, students are required to present medical documentation to validate the absence(s) as an excused absence within three days of the student's return to school. Your parent or guardian must call the office to explain the situation and estimated time of absence. When you return to school, you must bring an explanatory note from your parent/guardian or doctor.

**Legal Requirements:** Court order by a governmental agency mandating the student's absence from school is excused. Your parent or guardian must call the office to explain the situation and estimated time of absence. When you return to school, you must bring a copy of the court order documentation.

**Special or Recognized Religious Holidays:** Special or recognized religious holidays observed by the faith of the student. Your parent or guardian must call the office to explain the situation and estimated time of absence. When you return to school, you must bring an explanatory note from your parent/guardian.

**Weather or Environmental Conditions:** Weather or environmental conditions rendering attendance impossible or hazardous to the student's health or safety may be excused. Your parent or guardian must call the office to explain the situation and estimated time of absence. When you return to school, you must bring an explanatory note from your parent/guardian.

**Financial or Other Conditions:** Other absences to be determined by, and at the discretion of, the Principal may be excused.

**Pre-Notified Extended Absences:** For students who are going to be absent for an extended period of time that is pre-notified prior to the absence must fill out a **"Pre-Notification of Extended Absence Form"**. This form must be filled out 5 days prior to the absence. Forms may be picked up from the front desk. Extended Period is noted as three days or more.

### Unexcused Absences

An unexcused absence is a part of a student's school record. Students will be marked for an unexcused absence for:

**Failure to Attend School:** Failure to attend school, with or without the knowledge of the parent/legal guardian, for reasons other than those specifically outlined as excused absences will be considered unexcused absences.

**Out of School Suspension:** School days missed as a result of an out of school suspension **shall not be counted as unexcused** for the purpose of determining truancy. OSS allows students who miss school for an out of school suspension to make up any work missed (refer to the section Make-up Work for Excused Absences).

## School Tardy

A student is tardy when he/she arrives at school after the beginning of the official school day or is not in the assigned class at the official beginning of the class period. If applicable, students who are eligible for Bus Transportation and ride the bus to school will not be considered tardy when the bus arrives late to school. Students must be signed in by a parent or guardian regardless of grade level after 7:55 a.m. Students, who drive to school in their own vehicle, must sign themselves in if they arrive after 7:55 a.m. Students arriving before 7:55 a.m. must be in class by 8:00 a.m. or will be considered skipping and be issued an Office Referral. **Students loitering or purposefully reporting late to first period will be issued an Office Referral.**

**Excused Tardy:** Late arrival to school as a result of reasons defined herein as excused absences or as a result of events physically out of one's control such as inclement weather, documented transportation delays, health related emergencies, power outage, compliance with court order shall be considered excused tardy if the sign-in procedure is followed. Students who are transported to school other than School Buses (if applicable) and arrive late to school by vehicles must have their parent(s)/guardian(s) come into the school office to sign the student in as tardy at 7:55 a.m., and provide the reason for the tardiness. For carpools arriving late, the driver responsible for the carpool that day must come into the school office and sign in each student as tardy and provide the reason for the tardiness. Once the student(s) have been properly signed in, they will get a "late slip" for admittance to class. Students arriving after first period and whom are signed in by a parent or guardian regardless of grade level will be given a tardy pass from the front desk. **A student must be in class within 5 minutes of the posted time on the tardy pass or will be considered skipping.**

**Unexcused Tardy:** Arriving late to school with or without the knowledge of parent/guardian, as a result of reasons such as oversleeping, missing the bus, car problems, traffic, baby-sitting, athletic workouts, or socializing, is considered unexcused. If the sign-in procedure is not followed the student(s) will be marked as unexcused tardy regardless of the reason for the tardiness.

## Habitual School Tardy

Students who are unexcused tardy more than ten (10) times in a calendar month or twenty-five (25) times in a 90-calendar day period will be referred to the school counselor or school attendance clerk.

In the event a student has met the truancy threshold, five tardies to school or five early departures equal one unexcused absence.

## Class Tardy

Students are given three to four minutes of passing time to get to each class during the school day [with the ringing of a warning bell]. Students are expected to be sitting in their assigned seats when the class bell rings. Tardy students are required to get a special pass from the designated staff to be allowed to the classroom. If a student has checked in late through the front office, the student should have an admit slip to class from the front office. Repetitive tardiness will result in student receiving disciplinary consequence based on the minor violation discipline cycle.

## Class Cuts/Skipping

A class cut occurs when a student is absent from class for more than **5 minutes** without permission from the teacher or authorization from the office to do so. Students who become ill or need to see a counselor or administrator during class time should first report to class, obtain permission to be excused and a written pass from the teacher. If a student is too ill to report to the office, he/she should have another person notify the office at once in order that appropriate attention may be given to the student. If a student is ill, he/she should report to the front desk/clinic and use the school phone to notify a parent.

## Make-up Work for Absences – Excused or Unexcused

An excused or unexcused absence from school, even for several days, does not remove any student from responsibilities in the classroom on the day they return to school. Students who have been absent will be given the same number of days that they were absent to make up missed work. For an absence to be excused, a note should be submitted to the school office no later than two days after returning to school.

Assignments are available on the OSS-Connect website at [ossconnect.orlandoscience.org](http://ossconnect.orlandoscience.org) and are available 24 hours a day – should a student be absent for any reason; they should access this information via the Internet. Any assignment not listed, or work material needed for an assignment, may be requested by the student when they return from their absence. **Parents should contact the teachers through e-mail and follow the teachers' make-up work procedures found in their syllabi.**

Also, on the day the student returns to school, it is the student's responsibility to find out what work is required and when the work needs to be completed – failure to do this will result in a zero for each of those assignments. For students who have been absent, make-up tests will be scheduled at a time designated by the teacher. It is the students' responsibility to take the test at that time. If the student fails to do this, the teacher is not obligated to set another time for the make-up. If the student fails to make up a test without making other arrangements, the teacher is not required to give the student the test.

Students who participate in International or Out-of-State Competitions will be excused from their assignments that are given on competition days.

## Early Checkouts

Being removed from classes and leaving the school prior to the official end of the school day with a parent or legal guardian is considered an early checkout. A photo ID is required to check a student out of school. Only those persons who have been previously approved by the parent(s)/guardian(s), and officially recorded on the student's records at school will be allowed to check out a student. Early checkouts will be permitted until the last period starts.

To be considered "in attendance" for a school day, a student must be present for at least one-half of the school day, excluding the lunch period. Students leaving school before meeting that requirement will be considered absent for the day.

A parent or legal guardian must bring appropriate documentation showing the necessity of an early checkout at the time the student is released from school.

Parents are not permitted to check their students out of class after 2:30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and 1:20 p.m. on Wednesdays.

## Truancy

A habitual truant is one who has had at least five unexcused absences, or absences for which the reasons are unknown, within a calendar month or 10 unexcused absences, or absences for which the reasons are unknown, within a 90-calendar-day period. Truancy shows a deliberate disregard for the educational program and is considered a serious matter that will have immediate consequences. If you are truant, no credit will be recorded for work you missed as a result of truancy.

**After 3 unexcused absences:** The parent/legal guardian will be contacted by the school administrator requesting a conference. After two reasonable attempts to notify the parent/guardian without response, the school shall send a notice to the parent/guardian by certified mail, return receipt requested.

**After 7 unexcused absences:** The parent/legal guardian will be notified by the school administrator that the student has only three unexcused absences remaining prior to violating the state attendance requirements.

**After 10 unexcused absences:** A letter will be sent from the school administrator to the parent/legal guardian regarding attendance. In addition, a referral shall be made to the school social worker by the school administrator.

### Excessive excused absences also impact the educational program and may be handled as follows:

**After 5 excused absences:** The parent/legal guardian will be contacted by the school administrator or his designee by telephone or parental conference regarding attendance when possible. If contact is unsuccessful, a letter will be sent by the school administrator.

**After 7 excused absences:** A letter will be sent from the school administrator to the parent/legal guardian regarding attendance. In addition, the school administrator shall confer with the school social worker to determine whether a referral is warranted, at this time.

**After 10 excused absences:** The school has the discretion to confer with the school social worker to determine whether any action should be taken to address the absences. When administrative actions taken to correct truancy have proven ineffective, the school system may file a truancy petition pursuant to the procedures in state attendance laws.

## Perfect Attendance

Students are recognized if they maintain perfect attendance. Perfect attendance is considered as zero absences and zero tardiness to school and zero absences and zero tardiness to each assigned class. Whether the absence/tardy is excused or unexcused is not a consideration.

## Withdrawals

Requests to withdrawal must be placed with the campus registrar and will be processed within 48 hours. Same-day withdrawals are not available. All account balances must be brought current, devices and other school-issued materials (e.g. library and textbooks) must be returned, and any other outstanding elements must be reconciled prior to finalizing the withdrawal.

# CODE OF CONDUCT

## Conduct Information

It is our belief that good discipline is one of the cornerstones of a good education, and that to ensure good discipline a close, cooperative relationship must exist between the home and the school. It is our goal to provide close communication with parents at the onset of discipline problems, so that together we can find alternatives for students, and they can experience success in relationships at home and school.

For this discipline program to be successful, students must make choices for themselves and **be responsible for their own behavior as well as for their academic performance**. Students who make poor choices cannot, and should not, place blame on the environment, parents, the school, and/or peers. All persons, involved in committing, planning, participating, helping, advising, encouraging, or benefiting in the violation of a rule or code of conduct are parties to the violation. While the school will help students develop good decision-making skills, ultimately, the future is determined by each student's own actions. The procedures in the discipline program will be followed in a fair and consistent manner.

## Responsibility for Individual Actions or Choices

It is expected that every individual will accept responsibility for his/her own actions, whether intentional or unintentional. Often harm caused to other persons, or their possessions is unintentional, or the result of careless behavior. This, however, does not excuse or diminish the personal responsibility of the student (and/or his/her parent/guardian) to make appropriate restitution. When known and verified by an administrator, any harm caused to another will be reported to parents. **Neither OSS employees nor the Governing Board assumes any liability for the intentional or unintentional harm caused by any student to another individual or his/her possessions.**

OSS has as its goal to help every student fulfill his/her intellectual, social, physical, and emotional potential. Everything in and about the school has been designed to create an orderly and distraction-free environment in which all students can learn effectively and pleasantly. To foster this kind of learning environment, the OSS administrators and teachers shall not allow inappropriate, distractive, or disorderly behaviors to occur during school, on school property, or at any school-sponsored activities. **Students who continuously disregard the code of conduct may be recommended to the School Board for expulsion.**

Our goal is to develop in students a sense of responsibility and self-discipline. Firm but fair is the basis for this system wide discipline program. Guidelines are provided in order to foster mutual respect and cooperation within the school setting. OSS takes seriously its responsibility to educate its students in a safe and drug free school where they are free from fear of harm or intimidation. Weapons, drugs, and gang activity will not be tolerated. Students, who violate OSS rules, or State laws related to these offenses, will be suspended, or recommended for expulsion from school. Violators will also be reported to police and may be arrested. These rules apply to all students at school or school-sponsored activities, including field trips and on buses, athletic fields, stadiums, parking lots, official school bus stops, and other sites used for school-sponsored activities.

## Minor Violations Discipline Cycle

Minor violations in or outside of the classroom will be handled by the issuance of Conduct Points. Students' violations will be recorded by the teachers or other staff by help of a computerized Conduct Log system. **Conduct points** can be given anywhere in the school by any school employee. Parents and students will have online access to the recorded information at OSS Connect. Administration will review the recorded Conduct Log weekly and assign consequences as follows:

1 - 3 conduct points/week	No consequence assigned.
4 - 6 conduct points/week	Lunch Detention
7 - 9 conduct points/week	Administrative Detention
10 - 12 conduct points/week	Work Detail/Saturday Detention
13 – 15 conduct points/week	Positive Alternative to School Suspension (P.A.S.S.)
16 or more conduct points/week: Disciplinary Referral Form for not following school rules	Consequence based upon Class II Offense

Parents will be contacted with a letter sent home with the student, e-mail or the U.S. Mail, regarding the assigned consequence for administrative detention, PASS, OSS, and disciplinary referrals.

Teachers, in response to **minor** violations in the classroom, will take the appropriate steps when students fail to abide by the established behavioral expectations. Should misbehavior continue or interrupt the instructional environment the teacher will complete an **Intervention Referral Form** and send the student to the designated PASS Room.

## Minor Violations (Class I Offenses)

Orlando Science Schools is currently following the OCPs Student Code of Conduct. The following table(s) of minor violations and consequences are meant to be used as a guide for teachers remain flexible in their classroom management practices.

Minor violations listed below are not exhaustive and are subject to change at any time at the discretion of the Administration. Different violations carry different conduct points ranging from 1 to 3.

	Offense	Description	Max Point
1.01	Backpacks	Bringing backpacks to classroom or cafeteria.	1
1.02	Chewing gum	Chewing gum.	1
1.03	Dress code	Violation of the Uniform Dress Code	1
1.04	Eating or drinking in unauthorized areas	Eating or drinking in unauthorized areas.	1
1.05	No Agenda	Not having agenda during school hours.	1
1.06	Refusing to participate in learning	Refusing to participate in learning: sleeping or not participating, etc.)	1
1.07	Unprepared for class	Unprepared for class – not bringing the needed materials described in the course syllabus to class each day.	1
1.08	Body Art	Any body art on to include but not limited to temporary tattoos, marker paintings, etc. are not allowed. Student will not be permitted to go the class until cleaned.	1
1.09	Behavior That Puts Safety at Risk	Behavior That Puts Safety at Risk	2
1.10	Cafeteria misconduct	Cafeteria misconduct (loud talking, being out of seat, cutting in line, failure to clean up after oneself, loitering, etc.)	2
1.11	Classroom Disruption	Any other minor act of misconduct which interferes with the orderly operation of the classroom including but not limited to excessive or disruptive talking, throwing objects, verbal exchanges, arguing, passing notes.	2
1.12	Failure to follow directions	Failure to follow directions: Insubordination, refusal or failure to comply with a direction or an order from a school employee.	2
1.13	Hall disruptions	Hall disruptions (including but not limited to yelling, shouting, screaming, banging on lockers, and/or running)	2
1.14	Horseplay	Horseplay, roughhousing, wrestling, pushing, scuffling, clowning, or acting out.	2
1.15	Tardiness	Late arrival to school or class.	1
1.16	Disrespectful or rude behavior	Disrespect: Conduct or behavior that lacks regard, civility, politeness, and/or courteous consideration which goes beyond the bounds of acceptable student behavior. This may include, but is not limited to, teasing, name calling, gossiping, spreading or starting rumors, and purposely embarrassing or humiliating another student.	3
1.17	Vulgar, unprofessional language	Profane, Obscene, or Abusive Language/ Materials: The use of either oral, written or bodily language (including designations, abbreviations that connote offensive meaning), electronic messages, computers, gestures, objects, or pictures which are disrespectful or socially unacceptable and which tend to disrupt the school environment, a school function, or an extracurricular/co-curricular activity.	3

Repetitive minor violations recorded in the Conduct Log will result in student being classified as a Chronic Disciplinary Problem Student. Appropriate support will be provided to resolve the behavior issues within the Multi-Tiered System of Supports team (MTSS) problem solving framework. However, the principal may refer chronic disciplinary students to the School Board to be expelled from the school to protect the learning environment of other students at any time during the MTSS process.

## Major Violations Discipline Cycle

Major violations (Class II-IV) of the student code of conduct result in a Disciplinary Referral Form. The Disciplinary Referral Forms are investigated, and consequences are assigned by the administrator. Referral consequences will be assigned within 30 school days of the referral form submission date, unless the parent is advised the investigation is still on-going. Parents are notified of the consequences by either phone call, notice letter sent by student e-mail or US Mail. Assignments of consequences are progressive. In general, each disciplinary referral advances the student to the next step in the Major Violation Discipline Cycle and violations may have higher consequences if committed at a higher cycle step. Consequence ranges on the Major Violation Discipline Cycle cover most of the major violations. However, it cannot cover all possible examples for violating the listed offenses. Therefore, the school administration may impose consequences that are not listed if warranted by individual circumstances. Any item that is deemed unsafe, inappropriate, or hazardous to persons or property may be confiscated by school personnel. Offenses not covered by the Discipline Cycle are handled by the school administration in accordance with federal and state laws in a manner consistent with the Charter Schools Act. Also, at the discretion of administration heavier or lighter consequences may be assigned if warranted by individual circumstances.

## Intermediate Violations (Class II Offenses)

Intermediate acts of misconduct are more serious or disruptive examples of the offenses in Class I. Class II also includes repeated acts of misconduct from Class I and acts directed against people or property that do not seriously endanger the health or safety of others. The misconduct must be reported to the appropriate school administrator, via an Office Referral, for disciplinary action.



	Infractions	WD/Confiscation	Restitution	PASS(1 day)	PASS (2 days)	PASS (3 days)	OSS (1-3 days)	OSS (3-5 days)	OSS (5-8 days)	OSS (8-10 days) /OW	OSS (10 days) /EXP
2.01	Repeated Misconduct of Class-I violation: Repeated misconduct which tends to disrupt an orderly school environment or extracurricular/co-curricular program or activity.	M		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.02	Disrespect: Conduct or behavior toward school employee, student, or an adult that lacks regard, civility, politeness, and/or courteous consideration which goes beyond the bounds of acceptable student behavior. (More serious than Class I)			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.03	Fighting: Minor physical contact between two or more students which is harmful or disruptive. Self-defense is described as an action taken to block an attack by another person or to shield yourself from being hit by another person. Retaliating by hitting a person back is not self-defense and will be considered as fighting.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.04	Forgery: The making of a false or misleading written communication to a school staff member with either the intent to deceive the staff member or under circumstances which would be reasonably calculated to deceive the staff member.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.05	Gambling: Any unlawful participation in games (or activities) of chance for money and/or other things of value.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.06	Insubordination/Open Defiance: Either verbal or non-verbal refusal to comply with school rules or directions from school staff.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.07	Intimidation/Threats: The verbal or physical threat to do harm or violence to other student(s) or to the property of another person. Any verbal, written, or printed communication maliciously threatening any injury to the person, property, or reputation of another, with or without the intent to extort money or any pecuniary advantage whatsoever; or with intent to compel the person so threatened, or any other person, to do any act or refrain from doing any act against his/her will.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.08	Stealing (under \$50): Taking the property of another person or school without permission.		M	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.09	Unauthorized Assembly, Publications, etc.: Demonstrations and/or petitions by students, or possession and/or distribution of unauthorized publications, including misuse of electronic messages or computers which interfere with the orderly process of the school environment, a school function, or extracurricular/co-curricular activity.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.10	Bullying: A bullying offense includes systematically and chronically being cruel to other students, OSS employees, volunteers, or contracted personnel, on or off OSS property if it adversely impacts the educational environment at school for students or staff. This may include but is not limited to, repeated teasing, name-calling, and/or minor physical contact.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.11	Other Serious Misconduct: Any other intermediate act of misconduct or any more serious, harmful, or disruptive example of any of the offenses described in Class I.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.12	Physical Contact: Offensive, unwanted and/or inappropriate touch	Step 1		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.13	Dangerous/Unsafe Acts: Behave in such a way as could reasonably cause physical injury to any person or property without intent to do such harm.	Step 1		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.14	Provoking/Attempt to cause fight: Any action, comments, or written messages intended to cause others to fight, or which might reasonably be expected to result in a fight.	Step 1		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.15	Confrontation/Dispute: Lower-level confrontations such as, mutual pushing and shoving or altercations which stop upon verbal command and are resolved without injury or need for physical restraint.	Step 1		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8

	Infractions	WD/Confiscation	Restitution	PASS(1 day)	PASS (2 days)	PASS (3 days)	OSS (1-3 days)	OSS (3-5 days)	OSS (5-8 days)	OSS (8-10 days) /OW	OSS (10 days) /EXP
2.16	Simple Battery: Any actual and intentional pushing or striking of another student against the will of the other student.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.17	Leaving class without permission or not reporting to the designated area on time.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.18	Skipping or cutting class or activity: A class cut occurs when a student is absent from class for more than 5 minutes without permission from the teacher or authorization from the administration to do so.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3 -8					
2.19	Use of - in employee's presence - opprobrious or abusive words, or obscene language, pictures or gestures			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.20	Vandalism (Less than \$50): The willful or malicious destruction, damage, or defacement of school property including act of defacing with graffiti, keying, or scratching a car or trashing a room resulting in damages.		M	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.21	Providing False and/or Misleading Information – Intentionally providing false information to a school employee including giving false student information data and concealment of information directly relating to school business. This includes, but is not limited to, failure to provide correct name, correct phone number or other pertinent data, forgery of school notes, readmit slips, tardy slips, excuse blanks, report cards, hall passes, field trip forms, scholarship warnings, notes to or from parents/guardians, or any other related materials.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.22	Possession of Firearm Facsimiles – Possession, sale, or discharge of any facsimile, or toy-type replica of a firearm or empty shell,			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.23	Encouraging Major Violations of Code of Conduct. Consequences contingent upon rules violated.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.24	Lewd, Indecent, or Offensive Behavior – Any behavior offensive to common propriety or decency, including, but not limited to, “mooning,” offensive touching, indecent exposure, possession, distribution, or display of obscene or “hate” material, possession/display of electronic images or text, or similar behavior.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.25	Inciting or Participating in a Major Student Disorder - Leading, encouraging, and/or assisting in disruption which result in destruction or damage to property or cause personal injury.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.26	Public Display of Affection (PDA) : Kissing, fondling, “dirty dancing” , sitting on laps, prolonged hugging, close contact, or any suggestive contact that are in poor taste and show disrespect for others as interpreted by school personnel.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.27	Possession of Stolen and/or lost property with or without knowledge or not returning found items to the authorities.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.28	Cheating/Plagiarism: Willful or deliberate or unauthorized use of the work of another person for academic purposes, or unauthorized use of notes or other material or any form of communication in the completion of an academic assignment or test. In addition to disciplinary responses, the student may receive no credit for the assignment, test, or exam at the discretion of the teacher.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.29	Harassment: Any threatening, insulting, dehumanizing gesture, use of data or computer software, or written, verbal, or physical conduct that places an OCPs student or school employee in reasonable fear or harm to his/her person or damage to his/her property has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits, and has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of a school including any course of				Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7

	Infractions	WD/Confiscation	Restitution	PASS(1 day)	PASS (2 days)	PASS (3 days)	OSS (1-3 days)	OSS (3-5 days)	OSS (5-8 days)	OSS (8-10 days) /OW	OSS (10 days) /EXP
	conduct directed at a specific person that causes substantial emotional distress in such a person and serves no legitimate purpose. This may include, but is not limited to, name-calling with profanity, and/or minor physical contact.										
2.30	False and/or Misleading Information: Intentionally providing false or misleading information to or withholding valid information from a school district employee.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.31	Use or possession of Wireless Communication Devices: The continual misuse of wireless communication devices, including but not limited to, cellular phones, camera telephones, MP3 players, iPods, e-readers, and headphones, earbuds, and other electronic devices. Wireless communication devices may be brought to school but must be out of sight and kept in an "off" mode while on campus during regular hours. Parents should not call students or text students during school hours. Use of a wireless communication device may include the imposition of criminal penalties if the device is used in a criminal act. (Any student who chooses to bring a wireless communication device to school shall do so at his or her own risk.)	M		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.32	Mistreatment / misuse of school, personal or others' properties. The willful or malicious act of misuse or mistreatment of property such as littering, wasteful use or unauthorized possession.		M	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.33	Throwing food in the cafeteria or leaving/throwing trash.			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
2.34	Dress Code: Non-conformity to the dress code (second and subsequent offenses).			Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8

\*M: Mandatory

### Major Violations Class III Offenses

Class III infractions are major acts of misconduct. They include repeated misconduct acts from Class II; serious disruptions of school order; threats to the health, safety, and property of others; and other acts of serious misconduct. The misconduct must be reported right away to the school administrator, who may remove the student from the school or activity immediately.

	Infractions	FD/SOS	WD/Confiscation	Restitution	PASS (1day)	PASS (2 days)	PASS (3 days)	OSS (1-3 days)	OSS (3-5 days)	OSS (5-8 days)	OSS (8-10 days) /OW	OSS (10 days) /EXP
3.01	AWOL: Leaving school grounds or the site of any school activity without permission.						Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6
3.02	Technology tempering: Any use of technology for personal gain, profit, or illegal conduct, such as fraud, copyright infringement, pornography, hacking, grade tampering, or distributing viruses that result in disruption.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.03	Battery: When one student physically attacks another student with the intent to do bodily harm.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5

	Infractions	FD/SOS	WD/Confiscation	Restitution	PASS (1day)	PASS (2 days)	PASS (3 days)	OSS (1-3 days)	OSS (3-5 days)	OSS (5-8 days)	OSS (8-10 days) /OW	OSS (10 days) /EXP
3.04	Breaking and Entering: The unlawful and willful entry or attempted forcible entry of any school property or the personal property of students and school personnel.			M				Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.05	Destruction of Property/ Vandalism (More than \$50): The willful or malicious destruction of school system property or the property of others.			M				Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.06	Disrespect: Conduct or behavior that lacks regard, civility, politeness, and/or courteous consideration which goes beyond the bounds of acceptable student behavior. (More serious than Class II)							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.07	Extortion: The willful or malicious threat of harm, injury, or violence to the person, property, or reputation of another with the intent to obtain money, information, services, items of material worth, or to cause fear.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.08	Fighting: Physical contact between two or more students which is harmful or disruptive. Self-defense is described as an action taken to block an attack by another person or to shield yourself from being hit by another person. Retaliating by hitting a person back is not self-defense and will be considered as fighting.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.09	Firecrackers/Fireworks: Unauthorized possession and/or igniting of fireworks or firecrackers on school system property, at a school function, or extracurricular/co-curricular activity.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.10	Gross Insubordination/ Blatant Defiance: Willful refusal to submit to or comply with authority; exhibiting contempt or open resistance to a direct order such as refusing to serve a disciplinary consequence.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.11	Illegal Organizations: Establishing or participating in a secret society on school property, at a school function, or at an extracurricular activity.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.12	Possession of Contraband Material: Possession, use, and/or distribution of materials or items, other than weapons or firearms, which are forbidden. The parent/guardian will make arrangements to pick up the object from the school, if applicable.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.13	Smoking and Other Use of Tobacco Products: The possession, use, distribution, or sale of tobacco products on school property, at a school function, or extracurricular/co-curricular activity. This includes CBD oil and pills, vaping products and accessories, and other related items.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.14	Stealing (\$50 to \$300): The taking of the property of another without the permission of the person.			M				Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.15	Trespassing: Unauthorized entry into school property, a school function, or extracurricular/co-curricular activity and/or remaining after the administrator or designee has directed such person to leave that location.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.16	Possession of any instrument or object other than a firearm may be considered under this heading if there has been no threatening or intimidating display of the instrument or object.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.17	Other Major Infractions (Major infractions that do not fit within the other definitions): Mooning and sexual harassment which is any slur, innuendo, or other verbal or physical conduct reflecting on an individual's gender which has the purpose of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.18	Other Serious Misconduct: Any other major act of misconduct which seriously disrupts the orderly operation of the school program, or							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5

	Infractions	FD/SOS	WD/Confiscation	Restitution	PASS (1day)	PASS (2 days)	PASS (3 days)	OSS (1-3 days)	OSS (3-5 days)	OSS (5-8 days)	OSS (8-10 days) /OW	OSS (10 days) /EXP
	any school activity or transportation Services which threatens the health, safety, or property of self or of others or behavior not specifically described above which substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of a school, school function or an extracurricular/co-curricular activity. This may include, but is not limited to, providing false/misleading information to staff members, profanity, use of gang-related signs or symbols, or language intended or reasonably calculated to insult and/or incite another person; repeated dress code violations; misuse of electronic items or computers; or the activation of a fire alarm without reasonable cause which, in the discretion of the principal, was not the result of a willful or malicious act.											
3.19	Bullying – The offense must include systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more OCPS students, employees, volunteers, or contracted personnel that is severe or pervasive enough to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment, or unreasonably interfere with the individual's school performance or participation, on or off OCPS property if it adversely impacts the educational environment at school for students or staff. This may include, but is not limited to, repeated name-calling with the threat, physical contact with a minor injury, distribution or sharing of written texts/pictures/video to multiple recipients.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.20	Harassment: Any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, use of data or computer software, or written, verbal, or physical conduct that places an OSS student or school employee in reasonable fear of harm to his/her person or damage to his/ her property has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits and has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of a school including any course of conduct directed at a specific person that causes substantial emotional distress in such a person and serves no legitimate purpose. This may include, but is not limited to, name-calling with the threat, physical contact with minor injury, distribution or sharing of written texts/pictures/video to multiple recipients							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.21	Threat/Intimidation: Any premeditated or repeated threat to cause physical harm to another person with or without the use of a weapon, whether made verbally, in writing, electronically, or by conduct or action, to kill another person or do any act of violence which may cause death and creates fear of apprehension in that person that such violence is a serious expression of an intent to cause a present or future harm along with the individual having the capability to actually carry out the threat.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.22	Sexual Harassment – Mooning and sexual harassment, which is any slur, innuendo, gestures, or other written, verbal, or physical contact reflecting on an individual's gender which has the purpose of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. These acts are sexual in nature and may include, but are not limited to, sharing/sending/showing images or videos that have no bodily exposure but are taken in a private area, and/or minor physical contact that is sexual in nature.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5

	Infractions	FD/SOS	WD/Confiscation	Restitution	PASS (1day)	PASS (2 days)	PASS (3 days)	OSS (1-3 days)	OSS (3-5 days)	OSS (5-8 days)	OSS (8-10 days) /OW	OSS (10 days) /EXP
3.23	Directing Obscene, Profane, or Offensive Language or Gestures to a School Employee – Any behavior offensive to common propriety or decency directed to a school employee including, but not limited to, any verbal, written, electronic, or physical conduct such as threats, bullying, slurs, innuendos, or harassment, which has the purpose or the effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.24	Possession of a controlled object without intent to harm or use for personal protection							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.25	Entering in an unauthorized area without permission							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.26	Violation of the PASS Rules/Procedures							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.27	Creating or organizing a conspiracy of any kind with regard to the school and/or its' employees. Intentionally making false accusations that jeopardize the professional reputation, employment, or professional certification of a teacher or other member of the school staff.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
3.28	Sexual Misconduct: Any willful and/or deliberate act, behavior, or conduct intended to result in sexual gratification or furthering acts lewd or lascivious in nature; any unsolicited sexual proposal or offensive touching of another person; or any act of indecent exposure, including streaking.								Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4
3.29	Making a false 911 emergency call from school or personal phones.								Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4
3.30	False Fire Alarm: The willful and/or malicious activation of a fire alarm system or the willful and/or malicious reporting of a false fire.									Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
3.31	Inciting, Leading, or Participating in any Act which Substantially Disrupts the Orderly Conduct of School or a School Function: The act of inciting, leading, or participating in any disruption, (including gang related activities or incidents with multiple participants) disturbance or other act that: interferes with the education process; results in significant damage or destruction to public or private property (including electronic communication devices); causes personal injury to participants and others; or otherwise poses a threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of students, staff, or others. This may also include any false accusation made by a student that jeopardizes the professional reputation, employment, or professional certification of employee.									Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
3.32	Larceny/Theft Over \$300: The act or attempted act of taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession of another person. Included are pocket picking, purse snatching, and theft from a building, theft from a motor vehicle, machine or device which is operated using a coin or token and all other types.								Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4
3.33	Hazing: Any action or situation that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student at a school with any of grades 6 through 12 for purposes of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any school-sanctioned organization. This may include, but is not limited to, false imprisonment not resulting in medical attention, verbal or physical behavior resulting in minor injury, or any other activity that creates a substantial risk of physical injury.							Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5

	Infractions	FD/SOS	WD/Confiscation	Restitution	PASS (1day)	PASS (2 days)	PASS (3 days)	OSS (1-3 days)	OSS (3-5 days)	OSS (5-8 days)	OSS (8-10 days) /OW	OSS (10 days) /EXP
3.34	Provoking/Attempt to cause fight: Any action, comments, or written messages intended to cause others to fight or which might reasonably be expected to result in a fight.								Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4
3.35	Gang Related Conduct or behavior that tends to promote gang activity, provoke violence, or seriously disrupt the orderly operation of the school program, any school activity or transportation services, including but not limited to the possession, use or displaying of gang paraphernalia, jewelry, tattoos, clothing, or other insignias and writings that promote gang affiliation/involvement/the use of gang related signs or symbols or any other gang associated behavior.								Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4

### Zero Tolerance Violations Class IV Offenses

Class IV acts of misconduct are the most serious. Students who have been found to have committed the following offenses on school grounds, a school bus, school sponsored transportation or at a school bus stop, or during a school-sponsored function or activity shall be recommended for expulsion by the school principal or designee, receive the most severe consequences and be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency:

	Infractions
4.01	Homicide (murder or manslaughter)
4.02	Arson (Mandatory referral to an appropriate agency): The willful and/or malicious burning of or attempt to burn or destroy school system property, contents in or on the property, or personal property of others.
4.03	Threats to Employees, Volunteers or Students: Any direct threat, by word or act, to do violence or harm to a school employee, volunteer or student which creates a fear that the threat could be carried out.
4.04	Battery of Employees, Volunteers, or Students: An actual or intentional touching or striking of a school employee, volunteer, or student against his/her will or intentionally causing bodily harm to an individual. In severe cases, the battery of a student may be the basis for expulsion. More serious bodily harm involves a substantial risk of death; extreme physical pain, permanent disfigurement; permanent disability; use of a deadly weapon; or where the attacker knew or should have known the victim was pregnant. The harm must be documented through medical evaluation. The attack must be serious enough to warrant reporting to law enforcement.
4.05	Bomb Threats/Explosions: Any communication which has the effect of threatening an explosion to do malicious, destructive, or bodily harm to school system property at a school function or extracurricular/co-curricular activity, or to the person in or on that property or attending the function. This includes preparing, possessing, or igniting explosives, including unauthorized fireworks, on school property or at a school function or extracurricular/co-curricular activity.
4.06	Other Weapons: The possession, use, or control of any instrument or object, other than a firearm, which could be used to inflict harm on another person or to intimidate any person. Included in this category are objects such as BB guns or pellet guns, air soft guns, paintball guns and replicas of any gun or weapon, knives of any kind (including pocketknives), chains, pipes, razor blades, box cutter, machete, hypodermic needle(s), sling shot, spear, sword, ice picks, other pointed instruments, nunchakus, brass knuckles, explosives, Chinese stars, billy clubs, tear gas guns, electrical/chemical weapons or devices, ammunitions, incendiary device. Also included is anything represented to be a firearm if used in an intimidating manner toward another person.
4.07	Robbery/Extortion: The taking or attempting to take anything of value under confrontational circumstances from the control, custody, or care of another person by force or threat of force or violence and/or putting the victim in fear.
4.08	Sexual Battery: Any sexual act or attempt directed against another person, forcibly, and/or against the person's will. The category includes rape, indecent liberties, child molestation, and sodomy.
4.09	Other: Any other intentional or wanton act which significantly harms or poses a realistic threat of serious harm to oneself or another person and/or which is clearly beyond the bounds of acceptable and tolerable student conduct in the community. This may include, hazing, hate crimes, bullying and harassment or the possession of drug paraphernalia.



4.10	Drugs/Distribution/Selling/Buying. The transmission or distribution, buying or selling of any drug or contraband substance, or the selling or transmitting of any substance represented to be of said nature.
4.11	Alcohol: The possession, use, transmission, or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages.
4.12	Drugs/Possession/Use: The possession, use, or being under the influence of illegal or illicit drugs, or any other substance capable of modifying mood or behavior or the possession or use of any substance represented to be of said nature.
4.13	Threats to the School: Any direct or indirect threat that may harm the school or may disrupt the function of the school campus or school sponsored activity including but not limited to, threats made verbally or nonverbally by act, through social media or text. All threats are taken seriously, regardless of intent. Threats to the school may include, but are not limited to, bomb threats, threats to use firearms in a violent manner, and/or threats to conduct a mass shooting or an act of terrorism. Threats to the school are deemed zero tolerance by Sections 1006.07 and 1006.13, Florida Statutes.
4.14	Sexual Harassment: Unwanted verbal or physical behavior with sexual connotations that is severe or pervasive enough to create an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational environment, cause discomfort or humiliation or unreasonably interfere with the individual's school performance or participation. These acts are sexual in nature and may include, but are not limited to, sharing/sending/showing images or video that have bodily exposure, fondling or groping of another against their will
4.15	Sexual Offenses: Any willful and/or deliberate act, behavior, or conduct intended to result in sexual gratification or furthering acts lewd or lascivious in nature. This offense includes, but is not limited to, consensual sexual acts, and/or exposure of nude body parts in the presence of others or by sending through social media.
4.16	Vandalism (\$1000 or over) The willful or malicious destruction, damage, or defacement of public or private property including the act of defacing with graffiti, keying, or scratching a car or trashing a room resulting in damages.
4.17	Bullying: Repeatedly inflicting physical hurt, or psychological distress on one or more students, OCPs employees, volunteers, or contracted personnel, that is severe or pervasive enough to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment; or unreasonably interfere with the individual's school performance or participation on or off OCPs property if it adversely impacts the educational environment at school for students or staff. This offense may include, but is not limited to, repeated name calling with threats, stalking/cyber stalking, distribution or sharing of written texts, picture/video to multiple recipients, posting picture or video to social media for public view, and/or physical contact with serious bodily injury.
4.18	Harassment: Any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, use of data or computer software, or written, verbal, or physical conduct that places an OCPs student or school employee in reasonable fear of harm to his/her person or damage to his/her property, has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits and has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of a school including any course of conduct directed at a specific person that causes substantial emotional distress in such a person and serves no legitimate purpose. This offense may include, but is not limited to, stalking/cyber stalking, placing another in reasonable fear of death or severe injury
4.19	Physical Attack: An actual and intentional striking of a student, OCPs employee, volunteer, or contracted personnel against his/her will, resulting in less serious bodily harm. Less serious bodily harm does not include a substantial risk of death, extreme physical pain, permanent disfigurement, or permanent disability. The injury must be documented. This section does not include injury that is a result of fighting if the students are mutual combatants.
4.20	Larceny/Theft (\$750 or over: Taking, carrying, riding away with, or hiding property from another person, including motor vehicles, or attempting to do it, without threat or harm. This offense may include, but is not limited to, pocket picking, theft, from a building, theft from a motor vehicle, theft from a vending machine, theft of a golf cart, motor vehicle or anything that is self-propelled or motorized.

## DISCIPLINE PLAN

### School Wide Classroom Management Plan

#### Teacher Intervention Process for Classroom Misconduct

OSS uses a School-wide Classroom Management Plan in which all faculty and staff work in a cooperative systematic effort to encourage a successful learning environment. This plan is designed to ensure an effective learning atmosphere for all students and to curtail any minor inappropriate behaviors that disrupt the learning environment. The teacher, in response to **minor** disciplinary problems in the classroom, will take the following steps when students fail to abide by the established behavioral expectations:

##### Warning (Information of the rule, non-verbal, verbal or written warnings)

Students who create classroom disruptions and/or fail to meet behavioral expectations will be given a verbal warning – they will be identified by name, told what they are/are not doing properly, instructed how they need correct the situation.

##### In-Class Intervention Steps: (Class I Offenses)

Students who do not properly respond to the first step of a verbal warning may be placed in isolation within the classroom and/or have their seats changed, partake in a private conference, have privileges withheld, given an alternative assignment, or method deemed effective by the teacher. In-Class Interventions will be entered on OSS Connect for parental viewing and students will receive 1 Conduct Point after each **In-Class Intervention Step**.



### Intervention Referral Forms

Should misbehavior continue after the first two steps, the teacher will complete an **Intervention Referral Form** and send the student to the PASS Room. The student will remain in the PASS Room for the rest of the period. **The PASS Room is considered an extension of the classroom**, and during the student's visit, the Intervention Specialist will counsel the student about the cited offense. If the Intervention Specialist determines that additional counsel or parent contact is needed, he/she may do anyone, or all of the following:

1. Contact the parent(s)/guardian(s)
2. Refer the student to the Dean of Students
3. Refer the student to the Behavioral Leadership Team
4. Refer the student to the School Counselor
5. Refer the student to the MTSS

These **Intervention Referral Forms** will not be noted on a student's permanent discipline transcript. However, they will be entered on OSS Connect for parental viewing and students will receive 4 Conduct Points for each **Intervention Referral Form** they receive.

Minor Violations that may result in a Verbal Warning, Isolation, or Intervention Referral
1. Excessive talking
2. Pencil pops, spit balls and horse-playing
3. Throwing objects in class
4. Verbal exchanges, talking back, calling out and arguing
5. Failure to follow classroom instructions
6. Classroom disruptions (out of seat, not participating, etc.)
7. Unprepared for class (non-textbook issues – see page 26)

## GENERAL BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

### School-Wide Rules

- Respect yourself and others.
- Follow directions the first time.
- Be prepared for each class.
- Keep yourself to yourself.
- Transition quickly and quietly.

### In the Cafeteria

- No loitering in the cafeteria.
- Push chairs back after eating.
- Keep tables, chairs, and floors clean.
- Talk in a normal voice (classroom voice).
- No backpacks or books allowed in the cafeteria.
- Dispose of trays, trash and debris in trash bins.
- Keep hands, feet, personal belongings and food to yourself.
- Keep cafeteria lines orderly: no pushing, running, or cutting in line.
- No food or drink should be taken outside the cafeteria.
- No cell phones allowed in the cafeteria during scheduled lunch.
- Consequences will be assigned for not following cafeteria rules.

### At Group Assemblies

Team or grade school assemblies are held for the benefit of the students and the faculty. Courtesy will be shown to those in charge of and participating in the program. Misbehaving students will be removed and may lose their privilege to attend assemblies in the future. Students who receive an out-of-school suspension will not be able to participate in any assemblies for the rest of the school year.

### Regarding Technology Equipment in Computer Labs/Media Center

Students should respect all the technological equipment. Any mishandling or tampering with computers or systems may result in losing computer privileges at school. In addition, disciplinary action, including PASS and out of school suspension may occur for situations considered serious by the school administration. Any damage, requiring repair to hardware or software will result in financial charges being assessed. Students shall not alter or attempt to alter school or private property, including technology hardware and software. Students may not bring computer software to campus to be used on school computers without prior approval of the school administration. Students are not allowed to Instant Message, E-mail, write BLOGs or visit personal websites on school computers. Students should not bring food items or beverages into the classroom setting.

### Technology Usage Policy

All data that is composed, transmitted, or received via OSS technology and communication systems are the property of OSS, and part of the official records of OSS and OCPS. This property cannot be recorded, shared, duplicated, or distributed without written approval from the teacher or an OSS Administrator. Abuse of OSS learning platforms and tools, provided by the school, in violation of school policies will result in disciplinary and possibly legal action.

## Recording Without Permission

Students may not record live sessions or pre-recordings without the proper authorization of the instructor or administration. Students may not take pictures or screen shots of live or pre-recorded sessions. This is in place for the protection of other students and staff. Students that are found to have shared photos or recording without the proper authorization may be in violation of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). Students may be suspended or expelled, and the proper law enforcement officials may be notified.

## In the Halls, Lavatories, and Library

Students are not permitted in the halls during class periods unless they are accompanied by a teacher or have a hall pass from an authorized staff member. Students who are found in the halls without passes will be subject to disciplinary action. Hallways and lavatories are areas used by all members of OSS. Because everyone uses these areas, there are rules of conduct that all students must follow:

- Do not roughhouse, push, or wrestle.
- You may not eat or drink in halls and lavatories.
- You may not run in the halls, lunchroom, and lavatories.
- Do not leave belongings on the floor outside your locker.
- You must do your part to keep these areas clean and safe.
- You may not use any profane or vulgar language while in these areas.
- You may not loiter in the halls, lunchroom, lavatories, or media center.
- Make sure you clean up after yourself and appropriately dispose of all trash.
- Report any leaks, spills, or other problems in the lavatory to a teacher or the office.
- You may not yell, scream, hit lockers or make excessive noise while in these areas.
- You may not use cell phones or electronic devices while in these areas.

## During an Emergency:

Fire, intruder, and tornado drills are held at different intervals throughout the school year. Students must follow their teachers' instructions and go to designated areas as quickly as possible, in an orderly fashion. Students must not talk, run or push. A signal bell or the appropriate administrator will be given for returning to class.

## DESCRIPTION OF DISCIPLINE OPTIONS

### Withholding of Privileges (WP):

The student may be denied an opportunity to partake in school-related activities and/or events as deemed appropriate by an administrator.

### Lunch Detention / Morning Detention / Afternoon Detention (LD):

An administrator may assign administrative lunch detention to a student who fails to comply with school rules. Parents will be notified when administrative lunch detention is assigned. Students can also be assigned Morning and Afternoon Detention on any predetermined school day and time; parents/guardians will be given at least 48 hours' notice.

### Work Detail/Saturday (WD):

Student is assigned a task to be completed within a given time frame or until the objective of the task has been met. Examples might include picking up trash or cleaning an assigned area. Students can also be assigned Saturday Detention on any predetermined Saturday and time; parents/guardians will be given at least 48 hours' notice.

### Administrative Detention (AD):

Administrative Detention is an extended detention used as an alternative to PASS. Students are required to bring and do academic work or may be assigned work detail during Administrative Detention. Failure to fulfill this obligation will result in a higher consequence. Appeals must be presented in writing to principal.

### Positive Alternative to School Suspension (PASS):

Positive Alternative to School Suspension is a formal disciplinary action that can only be assigned by the OSS administrator and requires written correspondence to parents. In-school days of PASS may increase on successive occasions where it becomes necessary for the same student to be placed in the PASS Room. Students are required to bring and do academic work or may be assigned work detail while serving PASS. **All students assigned PASS are prohibited from participating in after school activities and are therefore required to leave the school campus immediately upon dismissal.** PASS consequences will be notated on student's permanent discipline transcript.

### Out-of-School Suspension (OSS):

Out-of-School Suspension is a formal disciplinary action that can only be assigned by the OSS administrator and requires written correspondence to parents. Out-of-school suspension may increase on successive occasions where it becomes necessary for the same student to be suspended from school. **A meeting between a parent and an administrator may be required prior to the return to OSS of any student serving an out-of-school suspension.** All students

**under out-of-school suspension are prohibited from participating in after school activities and therefore are not allowed to come on the school campus. Students who receive an out-of-school suspension will not be able to participate on any overnight field trips for the rest of the school year and any fees or deposits paid earlier are non-refundable.** Out-of-school suspension assignments will be notated on student's permanent discipline transcript.

### **Academic and/or Behavioral Contract:**

Students who have been given consequences based on Step 4 of the disciplinary cycle in any category will be asked to enter into an academic and behavioral agreement. Failure to sign the agreement by the parent and/or student will not hinder the school administration from taking any further actions.

### **Option to Withdraw (OW):**

A student may withdraw without penalty from a charter school at any time and enroll in another local school in the school district in which the student resides. A student who is suspended from a charter school as a result of a disciplinary action taken by a charter school shall be entitled to enroll in a local school within the local school system in which the student resides if, under the disciplinary policy of the local school system, such student would not have been subject to suspension.

### **Expulsion (EXP)**

Florida law (Section 1003.01, Florida Statutes) defines "expulsion" as the removal of the right and obligation of a student to attend a public school under conditions set by OCPS, and for a period of time not to exceed the remainder of the term or school year and one (1) additional year of attendance. Expulsions may be imposed with or without continuing educational services and shall be reported accordingly.

All Level IV Offenses may result in a one (1) year expulsion from all OCPS schools with or without continuing educational services. Some Level IV offenses require a mandatory one (1) year expulsion as provided by the zero-tolerance policy outlined in Florida Statutes and this Code; these offenses include: firearm/weapon possession/use and/or threats or false reports. Please note, the term "expulsion" is interchangeable with "full exclusion" and "expelled." Please refer to the OCPS Code of Conduct for the most updated policies and procedures for expulsions.

Expulsion is a formal disciplinary action that can only be approved by the School Board after receiving a recommendation by the OSS administrative team due to the student's involvement in a serious discipline offense or the student's involvement in repetitive discipline offenses. A written correspondence containing the recommendation information will be mailed to the students' parents within ten days of suspension.

### **Restorative Justice (RJ)**

OSS has implemented a Restorative Justice program designed to address the unique needs of students who have committed a non-violent behavioral infraction in violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Incidents that may qualify for participation in the Restorative Justice program include, but are not limited to, alcohol, bullying, drugs, sexual harassment, and theft. Restorative Justice Circles have been instituted with the person harmed, the responsible person and the school community members (administrator/dean/coordinator).

The foundation of the Restorative Justice program is both respect for community safety and a systemic understanding that builds on strengths of the participants, employs a System-of-Care team approach, embeds Multi-tier System of Supports (MTSS) practices, and identifies clear and specific expectations and outcome measures in order to help the youth develop more effective coping skills and pro-social behaviors. This approach focuses on the situation as being the problem rather than the individual being the problem. Successful completion of the Restorative Justice program will serve as an acceptable consequence in lieu of an external suspension, expulsion, or other appropriate disciplinary response.

## **SAFE HARBOR PROVISION**

Students may approach a school official or contracted personnel and turn in an object which is not allowed by the Code. Unless an investigation by school officials regarding the possession of an object that is not allowed by the Code has already started, a student who approaches a school official and turns in the object, may not receive discipline. An investigation starts when a school official or contracted personnel becomes aware of the object that is not allowed by the Code. The school will plan with the student's parent/guardian to pick up the object from the school, if applicable. If a student discovers illegal objects such as drugs, weapons, or other contraband on school property, including on a school bus, the student may approach a school official or contracted personnel and report the discovery. A student may not be in violation of the Code by making such a report. School officials shall adhere to policies and procedures concerning further investigation of the report. Law enforcement may be contacted for specific offenses, which may include, but are not limited to, firearms, drugs, and explosive devices. Objects not allowed by the Code that are discovered during a random search are not protected by the Safe Harbor provisions.

**Student Parking and School Locker Search.** All OSS parking areas and lockers are the property of the school. School authorities have the right to inspect any student vehicle and/or lockers to protect the health, safety, and welfare of students. This includes use of sniffing K-9 detector dogs. Individual student parked vehicles and/or locker searches will be conducted if school personnel have reasonable suspicion of a violation of the law or of the Code. A student will be presumed to be in possession of an object prohibited by the Code if the object is found in the car the student drove on campus or in the student's locker. Routine locker clean-ups are not considered searches.

## REWARD SYSTEM

Students at OSS are always expected to exhibit appropriate behavior. However, in an effort to encourage students to go beyond the expected behavior, students will be recognized for “doing good”. Some examples are, but not limited to:

- Assisting someone in need.
- Volunteering to do an unwanted task.
- Cleaning up after others.
- Consistently having a cooperative spirit.
- Exceeding requirements on an assigned task or assignment.

### Citizenship Award

Individual rewards will be planned for the end of each semester for OSS students. Those students who have not received conduct points, lunch detentions, Intervention Referrals, or Disciplinary Referrals during each semester are eligible to receive a **Citizenship Award** for excellence in behavior.

### Commendations

A **Commendation** will be awarded to students who are observed exhibiting behavior “**above and beyond**” expected behavior. Any OSS employee who observes a student engaged in this type of exceptional behavior can issue a **Commendation**. These **Commendations** will not be noted on a student’s permanent discipline transcript. However, they will be entered on OSS Connect for parental viewing and are a major factor in determining the Student(s) of the Month.

### Schoolwide Rewards

A system of rewards to students who reach a documented level of behavior has been put in place to recognize those students for their achievement. Eligibility for participating in each of these rewards differs for each reward – some are based on receiving **Commendations**, others are based on good behavior. Some of the **School-Wide Rewards** will be, but are not limited to:

### Dress Down Days

Students will be offered both *free* and *paid* dress down days. These dress down days may occur once each month, alternating between *paid* and *free*. Eligibility for participating in the *free Dress Down Days* is based on receiving no disciplinary events during the previous month AND having fewer than four conduct points, having not served any Positive Alternative to School Suspensions (PASS) or out-of-school suspension (OSS) during the school year. Students who have received PASS will still be eligible for *paid* dress down days. Students participating must follow the OSS guidelines listed under the section **Dress Code**.

### Student of the Month

The **Student of the Month** winners for each month will be given a signed certificate from administration, have their picture taken with the Dean of Students, and also have their pictures displayed on the hallway monitors for the month in which they won.

### Special Drawings & Prizes

Students who receive **Commendations** will be eligible for a **Special Drawing** which will be held randomly. At the time of the drawing, whoever has received a **Commendation** up to that point (since the last drawing), will have the opportunity to have their name drawn for a **Special Prize**. Whenever the **Special Drawing** is held, there may be more than one name drawn as a winner. After the drawing all the names will be removed and the process will start over – with new **Commendations** being placed in the box for the next **Special Drawing**. Prizes will vary each time, and winning students will draw from a box of prizes to choose the prize they won.

### Orca Character Awards

Students and teachers will receive monthly awards for exemplifying the OSS ORCA Core Values: **O**utreach towards community, **R**espect and compassion for all, **C**elebrate diversity, **A**dvocate for a safe learning environment, **S**trive for excellence within a stimulating environment.

## INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

OSS curriculum is guided by Orange County Public School and the FDOE curriculum/guidelines. In order to provide an excellent school education, as outlined in our mission statement, OSS enhances the basic Orange County Public Schools curriculum whenever possible. If you have specific question, please contact the Assistant Principal. Additional curriculum information can be found on our website: [www.orlandoscience.org](http://www.orlandoscience.org), under the “Academics” tab.

### Cheating and Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism are deceptive choices made by students to misrepresent the student’s true knowledge of the subject material (cheating) or misrepresenting information as their own ideas/concepts/words by not giving proper credit to the original source (plagiarism).

**All papers or projects submitted at OSS are required to be in the student’s own words** unless stated in writing by the teacher otherwise. Therefore, any copying of information from the Internet or any other source (i.e. “cutting & pasting”, etc.) is considered plagiarism. However, drawings and/or pictures may be taken from an Internet or other source as long as they are properly cited in the document.

Cheating and plagiarism demonstrate a deliberate disregard for the educational program and are considered a serious matter. Students who cheat or plagiarize will immediately be given a zero (0) on the assignment/project and referred to the administration using a **Disciplinary Referral Form** for disciplinary consequences.

### Conferences

Parents and teachers should maintain a good working relationship to help students get the best possible education. Conferences are good communication tools. Our most important form of communication is the parent-teacher conference. Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled at least once per semester – check the school calendar for the specific date. Additional conferences may be requested at any time during the school year. If you would like to have a conference with any staff member, please contact the school’s front office and arrangements will be made.

### OSS CONNECT

Parents can see their children’s academic improvement, daily homework and assignments, projects, discipline records and attendance records through OSS Connect. At the beginning of each school year, parents will be provided a username and password, which will provide access to ONLY their student’s records. We strongly encourage parents to visit OSS Connect on a daily basis to stay informed of their student’s progress.

### Grading Scale

Grade	Percent	AP/VCC	Honors	Regular	Definition
A	90-100	6	5	4	Outstanding Progress
B	80-89	5	4	3	Above Average Progress
C	70-79	4	3	2	Average Progress
D	60-69	1	1	1	Lowest Acceptable Progress
F	0-59	0	0	0	Failure
I	Incomplete	-	-	-	Course not completed
W	Withdrawal	-	-	-	Student withdrawn

### Grading System & Reporting

Students receive progress reports every 5<sup>th</sup> week of each 9-week grading period and report cards every 9 weeks. Final grades for core academic courses are received at the end of each 9-week period. Parents should contact their child’s teacher if there are any questions concerning grades recorded or information contained on the child’s report card. The OSS Governing Board, in compliance with State Standards, approves the grading scale. Grades are reported numerically on all progress reports and report cards except the end of year report card. Letter grades are reported on end of year report cards. Any grade below 60 is failing.

### Homework Policy

Homework is an essential part of your successful educational program at OSS. Completing homework will assist students in developing valuable skills such as good study habits, time management, responsibility, and perseverance. Teachers assign homework that will foster individual learning and growth, and that is appropriate for the subject area. Homework is part of all students’ regular evaluations. It is each student’s responsibility to complete and turn in homework on time – if it is not, a grade of zero may be given at the discretion of the teacher. In case of conflict regarding homework assignments the teacher’s record is final. If students or their parents have questions about homework, immediately contact the teacher who assigned it. Teacher’s e-mail is available and daily assignments are posted on OSS Connect on our web site: [www.orlandoscience.org/highschool](http://www.orlandoscience.org/highschool).

## Preparedness for Class

Students must bring the needed materials, described in the course/teacher syllabus, to class each day. Failure to do so may result in conduct points. Students who repeatedly receive conduct points for unpreparedness for class will be given appropriate consequence within the discipline cycle and may receive an **Office Referral Form** for failure to follow school rules. Agendas must be brought to class each period, every day.

**Note:** Students who have lost their textbook will be permitted to use a text during classroom instruction however, they will not be permitted to take the text home for homework purposes (refer to **TEXTBOOKS** section).

## Promotion

At the end of each academic year students who have made satisfactory progress in academic subjects are promoted to the next grade level. OSS will follow Orange County Public Schools Student Progression Plan for Middle/High Schools.

## Recognition

Students are recognized on a regular basis and rewarded for accomplishments. Outstanding student achievement will be recognized each semester in three distinct categories:

- **Principal's Honor Roll** - students achieving a weighted academic average of 95 or above in all subjects.
- **Honor Roll** - students achieving a weighted academic average of 90 to 94.9 in all subjects.
- **Achievement Roll** - students achieving a weighted academic average of 80 to 89.9 in all subjects.

Calculations are carried out up to one decimal point, and standard rounding rules are applied. Connection classes and core classes have different weights.

## Schedule Changes

Each student's schedule is carefully planned and developed based on the student's academic history and demonstrated abilities. **Modifications to the student's schedule can only be made if requested within the first two weeks of the beginning of the school year through the guidance department.** Any requests made after this time may be deemed as disruptive to the regular routine already established, and therefore, may not be honored. Written permission from the parent is required for the change. The final decision will be made by the administration. Please check your student's schedule carefully during the first week of school to ensure the best placement for your student.

## Textbooks

Textbooks for pupils are furnished by OSS. Restitution for lost and/or damaged textbooks or related materials and supplies will be required BEFORE a second text or additional materials will be made available to a student. Students who owe money for lost or damaged texts or materials will be permitted to use a text during classroom instruction; however, they will not be permitted to take the text or materials home for homework purposes. Report cards and FSA score cards may also be withheld until textbooks fees are collected.

## DRESS CODE

### Orlando Science Schools Uniforms

Students are expected to always wear the OSS uniform while on campus and to dress and groom themselves in such a way as to demonstrate and promote neatness, cleanliness, and safety. The spirit and intent of the OSS dress code is to achieve a professional "look" that can best be described as "Business Casual." A simple test to determine if a student's grooming or article(s) of clothing is/are acceptable would be to ask if the student would wear it to a business meeting. All students should dress appropriately so as not to disrupt or interfere with the educational program or the orderly operation of the school. The principal or other duly authorized school officials shall determine whether any mode of dress, grooming and/or accessories is/are in violation of the spirit and/or the intent of the school's dress code policy. Students and parents are expected to honor the OSS dress code in order that valuable instructional time is not spent examining student attire to determine appropriateness. **Students are not permitted to change out of their uniforms during or after school unless participating in P.E. or other school activities that require non uniform clothing.**

**All school uniform shirts, shorts, pants, skirts, jackets, and physical education clothing must be purchased from the uniform provider, designated by the school.**

Students who violate the OSS dress code will be allowed to call home for an appropriate change of clothing after obtaining administrator approval. Otherwise, the student may be isolated in the PASS Room for the remainder of the school day. The student's parent/guardian will be notified of this violation. Inappropriate attire jeopardizes the instructional climate; and therefore, will not be tolerated. Parents and students are encouraged to report dress code violations to the Dean of Students. If another student violates dress code this does not excuse or prevent the issuance of consequences to other students for violating dress code. Administration may update the Code of Conduct and Dress Code at any time.

## Dress Code and School Pictures

Photographs of students who are not adhering to Dress Code will not be included in the school Yearbook.

### Guidelines for Clarification:

#### 1. Uniforms must be always worn properly while on the OSS campus:

- a. Students must be in complete and correct uniform when they arrive at OSS. All shirts must be tucked into shorts, pants, or skirts. Belts must be worn with all pants and shorts. Shoes must be tied. Uniforms are expected to remain intact and appropriately worn throughout the entire day while on campus.
- b. Students must remain in full uniform until after they leave the OSS campus. Shirts must remain tucked in until students leave the school campus. This includes during club times and while waiting in the dismissal and after-care areas.
- c. Students who ride the bus to school must be in complete uniform when they get on the bus. Since students must be in complete uniform when they arrive at OSS, and they are not allowed to change clothes on the bus, they must be in complete uniform before they get on the bus in the morning.

#### 2. Top Options:

- a. Knit (polo) shirts must be a pique or jersey fabric in the grade appropriate color with the OSS school logo. These knit shirts can be either short sleeve or long sleeve. All knit shirts must be tucked in (able to see the belt/waistband) at all times to the shorts, pants, or skirt the student is wearing.
- b. Sweatshirts must be the grade appropriate color with the OSS school logo. These sweatshirts are an economical alternative when students need to have additional warmth. When wearing a sweatshirt, the student must still be wearing an OSS uniform polo shirt underneath the sweatshirt – the sweatshirt cannot be worn alone. Sweatshirts may not be worn (tied) around the waist.
- c. Long Sleeve/Turtlenecks must be the grade appropriate color and the OSS school logo is required. These long sleeve/turtleneck shirts must be tucked in (able to see the belt/waistband) at all times to the short, pants, skirt, or skort the student is wearing. Long sleeve/Turtleneck shirts that are not school colors may not be worn under the short sleeve knit shirts.
- d. Vests, Hoodies & Sweaters and Shirts must be the grade appropriate color and the embroidered **OSS school name/ logo** is required. OSS Uniform Vests, hoodies, and sweaters must be a solid color with no graphics. Vests, hoodies, and sweaters require that the student must still be wearing an OSS uniform polo shirt underneath – the vest, hoodies, and sweaters cannot be worn alone. Sweaters or hoodies may not be worn (tied) around the waist. Students **MUST NOT** wear hood on their heads while on campus. Disciplinary consequences under Class II Offenses may be issued for repeated misconduct.
- e. Polo Fleece must be the grade appropriate color and the embroidered OSS school logo is required. The fleece requires that the student must still be wearing an OSS shirt underneath – the fleece cannot be worn alone. Fleece may not be worn (tied) around the waist.
- f. Jackets must be the grade appropriate color and embroidered with the OSS school logo. **Non-OSS Hoodies are not permitted on the OSS campus, even on dress down days.**
- g. All top options must be purchased from the school's designated uniform provider.
- h. School Spirit or Club T-shirts may be worn in the place of Knit (polo) shirts on Fridays or when authorized by an OSS school administrator only.

#### 3. Pants or Shorts:

- a. All pants or shorts must be either khaki, black, or navy blue in color. All pants and shorts must have belt loops, and a belt must be worn through all the loops and fastened appropriately. Uniform front pockets must be side seam pockets and back pockets must be sewn inside the pant or **short – NO OUTSIDE POCKETS (CARGOES), PATCH POCKETS, NOR ADDITIONAL POCKETS ARE PERMITTED.** Uniform pants or shorts may not have rivets or brads, split seams at the bottom of the legs, nor flaps on the pockets. Material may not be suede or corduroy – it must be 100% cotton or a cotton/polyester blend that is wrinkle resistant. If a student wears cargo shorts to school, he/she will be sent to PASS. The student will be permitted to call home for acceptable clothing. Pants and jeans may not have writing, designs, rips, or tears, even with leggings underneath.
- b. All pants or shorts must be worn properly at the waist and not sag below the top of the hips. Students wearing the top of their pants or shorts below their hips, or who are exposing their undergarments, will be given an Office Referral Form for improper exposure. All pants or shorts may not be rolled up or folded up. When standing, shorts must be no shorter than 2 inches above knee level. All pants and blue jeans must be full leg length and must cover the ankles when standing. **The legs of all pants, blue/black jeans and shorts must not be form-fitting.**
- c. Physical Education shorts are only permitted to be worn in school during physical education class time. When standing, Physical Education shorts must be no shorter than the tip of the student's middle finger when their arms are at their side. All uniform pants or shorts must be purchased from the school's designated uniform provider.

#### 4. Skirts or Skorts:

- a. Skirts or skorts must be either khaki, black, or navy blue in color. All skirts and skorts must not be made of jean, suede, or corduroy material. No splits are permitted in the skirt at all. When standing, skirts and skorts must be no shorter than 2 inches above knee level. **Skirts and skorts must not be rolled or folded at the waistband - students wearing their skirts or skorts too short will be given an Office Referral Form for improper exposure.**

- b. Pants, blue jeans, tights, sweats, full or half-length leggings, pajama bottoms or other apparel must not be worn under the skirt or skort. For modesty purposes, shorts may be worn under the skirts or skorts, however, any clothing that extends below the skirt or skort in the standing or seating position must not be worn at any time.

#### **5. Shoes:**

- a. Conservative dress shoes, sport or walking shoes, loafers, sneakers, and leather deck-type shoes are acceptable. Shoes must be inconspicuous and NOT attract attention. Shoes must be closed toed. The vast majority of the exterior surfaces of acceptable shoes must be solid Black, White, Brown, Gray or Navy Blue in color. Very small areas (less than 5%) of the exterior surfaces of acceptable shoes may consist of logos, symbols, designs, or patterns (some examples: striped, checkered, contrasting colors, plaid, camouflage, stars, polka dots, etc.); or bright/distracting colors (some examples: fluorescent, metallic, neon, light emitting, etc.). Shoes with socks must be worn at all times.
- b. The emphasis regarding shoes is safety – for that reason, all shoelaces must be tied properly, all buckles fastened, all straps must be secured – nothing may dangle or drag from the shoe. Slippers or thin-soled shoes, flip-flops, or open-toed shoes are not permitted
- c. BOOTS, UGGS, clog or slipper style CROCS, ROLLER SHOES, “WHEELIES” or other types of shoes equipped with wheels, and HIGH-HEELED SHOES ARE NOT PERMITTED. (Heels on shoes may not be higher than one (1) inch.) Athletic shoes with spiked or lugged soles (“cleats”) are permitted to be worn outside the school building and in the gymnasium only, and only while participating in a physical education class or a school sponsored athletic activity.

#### **6. Accessories:**

- a. Belts must be leather, braided leather, or fabric in the solid colors of black, brown, gray, navy blue or khaki. Belts and buckles must be inconspicuous and not attract attention. Belts are required to be worn properly with all pants or shorts – this means that the belt must go through all the belt loops on the pants, be properly fastened or buckled, and the “end” of the belt must not be allowed to hang down (excess length must be pulled through the belt loops if there is any). The belt must also be tightened enough to prohibit the student’s pants or shorts from sagging below the hips. Large, decorative, or elaborate belt buckles are not permitted.
- b. Socks, stockings, tights, or hose may only be in solid colors of black, khaki or white. Clear or skin-colored hose are also acceptable. Fishnet or other patterned stockings or hose are not permitted. Stockings, tights, or hose must cover the full length of the student’s legs and feet – leg warmers are not permitted.

#### **7. Miscellaneous Guidelines:**

- a. Clothing must be neat and clean.
- b. Clothing may not be worn inside out or backwards.
- c. Undergarments must not be exposed.
- d. Hair, face and/or body paint, as well as tattoos are inappropriate for school and not permitted.
- e. Athletic outfits are not permitted in the school building, except in P. E. classes and on Dress Down Days.
- f. Cosmetics and/or make-up must be age appropriate, appropriate for school, and not attract attention.
- g. Clothing with rips, tears, holes or frayed edges is considered inappropriate for school.
- h. Jewelry and accessories must be appropriate for school and not attract attention or pose a safety risk. Piercings other than earrings are prohibited. Hair accessories must not attract attention or present a danger.
- i. Extreme hairstyles are not permitted (examples: Mohawk style cuts, “spiked” hair, “Big Up-Do”, “Big Curls”, hair jewelry, hair coloring other than standard frosting or natural highlighting, etc.). Hair color and style must not attract attention. Students are not permitted to have designs shaved into their hair.
- j. Hats, caps, curlers, headscarves, bandanas, doo-rags, combs, sweatbands, chains, sunglasses, tennis skirts, gloves, arm warmers, and coats are not to be worn during school hours (even on dress down days).
- k. Exemptions to the OSS dress code will be granted for religious purposes if approved in advance.
- l. On dress down days, clothing that is revealing, such as mini-skirts, short-shorts, blue jeans with holes/tears, tank tops, loose fitting, low-cut blouses or halter tops, mesh shirts, spaghetti straps, any see-through clothing or shirts exposing the shoulders/midriff are not to be worn to school. Sleeveless shirts are not allowed. Costumes/masks are not permitted. (Mainly applies to non-uniform days at school). Shirts must be worn buttoned up to second from top.
- m. On dress down days, all t-shirts must be in good taste (Examples: No offensive or suggestive wording or illustrations or advertisements for items which are illegal for middle/high school students - i.e., alcohol and tobacco products, etc.). Administration approved school spirit t-shirts may be worn in lieu of school uniform t-shirt on designated days only.
- n. Non-uniform outside coat, jackets and hooded apparel may not be worn inside the school building. All non-uniform outside coats and jackets must be put in the student’s locker/backpack immediately upon entering the school building. The OSS uniform provider carries an optional sweatshirt or zippered fleece for those students who feel they need to have additional layers to remain warm.



## SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

### After School Activities

A number of extra-curricular clubs and/or enrichment activities are offered for students. A brochure describing these activities is available in the school office. Nominal fees may be charged for participation in order to cover the cost of materials and/or supplies. There is no better way for students to enrich their education than by taking part in clubs and after-school activities or through working with a teacher. These opportunities will allow you to explore things you already enjoy and to try other areas that sound interesting.

In order to participate in any after school extra-curricular activity, including music performances, plays, etc., students must arrive in time to be counted present during the school day. In addition, any student who has demonstrated an inability to follow rules may be prohibited from participating. Specific disciplinary, tardiness, and GPA requirements are provided when the event is announced. Requirements may include periods prior to event announcement. Students staying for after school activities will be expected to follow the following rules or they may be banned from all after school activities:

- You report to dismissal, after school club or activity by **2:35 p.m.** on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; and **1:40 p.m.** on Wednesday.
- You may not stay after school to wait for another student.
- You must be with a teacher or other staff member at all times.
- You must abide by the OSS Code of Conduct while participating in the activity.
- Your school activity privileges will be cancelled if discipline becomes a problem.
- You must clear the school building immediately following school activities by using the front door.
- You must arrange for your own transportation to arrive promptly at the end of the activity.
- Written permission is required for use of OSS facilities. Students are not allowed on campus after **2:35 p.m.** on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday; and **1:40 p.m.** on Wednesday unless supervised by a school employee or club sponsor.
- Students with outstanding lunch or after school care balance, will not be allowed to participate in any type of fund required extracurricular academic or non-academic activities/events (including field trips, competitions, clubs, and afterschool events.)

Signing up for after school activities is required for each semester in order to be eligible to participate.

### After School Care Program

The After School Care Program is established to accommodate parents who cannot pick up their students at the end of the club period. Students will be hosted under supervision of an adult and will be able to read, study, and do homework during this time. The charge for this service is announced during the orientation day before the school starts. Monthly registration for discounted price will be available.

The program is provided until 6:00 p.m. every day. Regardless of the situation, we will call the local authorities and give them custody of the student after 6:15 p.m. Neither OSS nor the teacher assumes any responsibility for the welfare of the student. OSS doesn't offer before school care, school opens, and supervision starts at 7:15 a.m.

### Communications between School & Home

Every effort will be made to ensure good communication between the home and the school. Parents may communicate directly with the school's staff members via e-mail, voice mail, written request, or by accessing the school's web page. OSS utilizes the following communication tools to inform parents/guardians and students about updates, changes, and revisions to policies and procedures, events, and more. At any time, new communication may be added. Please follow them closely: Student Handbook, Curriculum Guide, OSS Website, electronic Newsletter, Email, Phone Blast, Social Media)

### Field Trips

Field Trips offer exciting ways to learn. OSS students will have the opportunity to go on field trips at various times throughout the school year. Grade level and/or team sponsored day field trips are offered to most students. **Students, who have received an out-of-school suspension (OSS) during the school year, will not be eligible to participate in any overnight field trips for the rest of the school year and any fees or deposits paid earlier are non-refundable.** In addition, any student who has demonstrated the inability to follow rules may be prohibited from participating. Specific disciplinary, tardiness, and GPA requirements are listed on each field trip form. Any fees or deposits paid earlier are non-refundable. For all field trips, you will be expected to follow these rules:

- You must abide by the OSS Code of Conduct and Discipline Plan while on the field trip.
- You must follow the OSS Dress Code, wearing the "royal and khaki" uniform unless otherwise specified.
- You must bring to school the **Field Trip Permission Slip**, signed by your parents or guardian, by the specified date. No phone calls or e-mails will be accepted as permission.

### Lunch/Nutrition Program

Students may purchase a nutritional lunch in the school cafeteria or may bring their lunch from home. The cost for student lunch is announced at the beginning of school and can be **paid on a monthly basis ONLY**. Students may purchase milk, and other nutritional beverages at school. Students needing free or reduced lunch should contact the administration.

## Home Visits

Research shows that home visits help with both academic and behavioral performance. The overall goal of home visiting is to help strengthen relationships between parents and teachers. Home visiting programs are an effective way for teachers to get parents involved in their child's education and to let parents and children know how much they care. Therefore, OSS encourages teachers to visit their students at their homes.

## Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)

The purpose of the student support team (MTSS) is to identify and plan alternative instructional strategies for students who are experiencing academic, social, or behavioral problems. The student support team is a committee consisting of the referring teacher, the chairperson, and at least one other participant. Parents are invited to attend the MTSS process regarding their child. The MTSS process provides problem-solving strategies and instructional support for teachers and parents. Questions concerning the referral process should be referred to an administrator.

## Behavioral Leadership Team

The purpose of the behavioral leadership team is to identify and plan alternative instructional strategies for students who are experiencing academic, social, or behavioral problems. The student support team is a committee consisting of the referring teacher, the chairperson, and at least one other participant. Parents are invited to attend the SST process regarding their child. The SST process provides problem-solving strategies and instructional support for teachers and parents. Questions concerning the referral process should be referred to an administrator.

## Exceptional Student Education (ESE)

Orlando Science Schools employs an ESE Teacher to provide consultation services to classroom teachers who serve special education students, as needed. OSS shall comply with federal and state law to ensure that all students with disabilities will be provided with a free appropriate education (FAPE).

## School Pictures

A contracted photographer will photograph students in the school during the fall and spring semesters. Parents may purchase the entire package of photos or a partial packet. Students must adhere to Dress Code policy for their school pictures in order to have their photo be included in the school yearbook and/or other school publications.

## School Resource Officer

The campus police officer protects the students and the school from theft and criminal trespass, acts as a resource person for student concerns, assists in the investigation of student problems, serves as a guest lecturer on a variety of legal subjects, and functions as a liaison between the student and law enforcement agencies. In cases where students violate school rules that also violate criminal law, criminal charges may be filed in addition to disciplinary consequences.

## School Sponsored Activities

From time to time, OSS administration may organize or sponsor off-campus activities. Unless otherwise specified by the administration, all school rules are in effect in any such school sponsored activity. Eligibility to participate in such programs and specific policies will be determined and announced by the administration as needed.

## Transportation To and From School

### Car Riders

Students who are transported in cars should be dropped off in the designated area in front of the school. The earliest drop off time is 7:15 a.m. OSS takes no responsibility for students who are dropped off before 7:15 a.m. Automobiles must not drive through or park in the bus loading areas. When picking a student up at dismissal time, please enter the driveway at the front of the building. OSS employs a designated person or a police officer to direct the traffic. Your cooperation with this person is expected in order to make arrival/dismissal as safe and efficient as possible. **The campus speed limit is 5 mph (miles per hour).**

### Walkers

OSS takes no responsibility for student walkers. Due to limited sidewalks and high-volume traffic in the immediate area, walking is strongly discouraged. Parents/Guardians who desire for their child to walk or ride the bus, to or from school, must submit a written request to the OSS administration for consideration.

## Skateboards, Roller Blades, and Scooters

Skateboards, roller blades, and/or scooters, are not permitted on school property.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

As needed, additional Health and Safety Procedures will be published at the beginning of the school year based on recommendations from the CDC, FDH, OCPS, and FDOE.

### Illness and Injury

OSS will have part-time school clinic personnel or a first-aid-trained-professional available to discuss or assist with medical problems or concerns. If clinic personnel are not available, students should report to the secretary. If students do not inform the office and simply miss class, it is an unexcused absence.

### Emergency Contact Forms

**OCPS required Emergency Contact Forms are due at the beginning of every school year. Students who fail to return these forms will not be permitted to participate in any after school clubs, activities, academic and sport teams. These forms are available at the front desk. Students will not be released to parents, guardians, or other specified individuals from school during early departures or other events without this form.**

### Medication Policy

Medication should not be brought to school unless it is essential to the health of the student. If a student must take medicine at school, these procedures must be followed:

The medication to be administered by designated school personnel must be sent directly from the pharmacy or physician's office **or** brought to school by the student's parent/guardian. The school must receive an **In-Program Medication Administration Form** signed by the student's physician and parent/guardian.

The following information must be printed clearly on the medication container:

- Student's Name
- Name of the medication
- Dosage
- Time the medication must be taken.
- Expiration Date

Bring in only the amount of medication that is needed for a school day. In the case of prolonged need, send in the amount for a clearly specified period such as one week or one month. Extra medication will not be sent home with a student. All medication will be kept in a secure location in the clinic.

### Self-Administration of Medication:

As a general rule, students are not allowed to carry any medication with them in school. However, students may carry and administer their medication **if both of the following conditions are met:**

- It is warranted by a potentially life-threatening condition and advised by their physician **AND**
- A Medical Self-Carry Form is on file in the office signed by the student's parent, the physician, and the county nurse. These are items such as inhalers, epi pens, and diabetic equipment.

### Over-the-Counter Medications

Aspirin, Tylenol, cough drops, and other patient over-the-counter drugs are not available through school. Should you wish for your child to have access to these medications, you must sign a waiver and leave a supply with the school clinician or the front office. Students are prohibited from carrying any type of medication or herbal supplement on them.

### Wellness Policy

In accordance with federal guidelines for schools providing the Federal Free & Reduced Lunch Program, OSS has established a Wellness Policy which is designed to promote the daily awareness regarding good nutrition and physical health. School employees, parents and students are required to comply with this policy when considering special events, parties, field trips and other activities involving students and refreshments. The Wellness Policy is available for review on the OSS website at [www.Orlandoscience.org](http://www.Orlandoscience.org).

## GUIDANCE

### Graduation Information: Students Entering Grade 9

#### Diploma Options

Students must successfully complete one of the following diploma options:

- 24-credit standard diploma
- 18-credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) option
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) curriculum
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma curriculum

#### State Assessment Requirements

Students must pass the following statewide assessments:

- Grade 10 ELA (or ACT/SAT concordant score)
- Algebra I end-of-course (EOC) or (or ACT/SAT concordant score)

Students must participate in the EOC assessments, and the results constitute 30 percent of the final course grade. These assessments are in the following subjects:

- Algebra I\*
- Biology I
- Geometry
- U.S. History

\* Special Note: 30% not applicable if not enrolled in the course but passed the EOC.

#### Credit Acceleration Program (CAP)

This program allows a student to earn high school credit if the student passes an advanced placement (AP) Examination, a College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or a statewide course assessment without enrollment in the course. The courses include the following subjects:

- Algebra I
- Geometry
- U.S. History
- Biology I
- Algebra II

### Graduation Requirements: Students with Disabilities

Two options are available only to students with disabilities. Both require the 24 credits listed in the table and both allow students to substitute a career and technical (CTE) course with related content for one credit in ELA IV, mathematics, science and social studies (excluding Algebra I, Geometry, Biology I and U.S. History).

- Students with significant cognitive disabilities may earn credits via access courses and be assessed via an alternate assessment.
- Students who choose the academic and employment option must earn at least .5 credit via paid employment.

### 24-Credit Standard Diploma Requirements

4 Credits English Language Arts (ELA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ELA I, II III, IV</li> <li>• ELA honors, Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), International Baccalaureate (IB) and dual enrollment courses may satisfy this requirement</li> </ul>
4 Credits Mathematics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of which must be Algebra I and one of which must be Geometry</li> <li>• Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra I and Geometry)</li> </ul>
3 Credits Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of which must be Biology I, two of which must be equally rigorous science courses</li> <li>• Two of the three required credits must have a laboratory component</li> <li>• An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I)</li> <li>• An identified rigorous Computer Science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I)</li> </ul>
3 Credits Social Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 credit in World History</li> <li>• 1 credit in U.S. History</li> <li>• .5 credit in U.S. Government</li> <li>• .5 credit in Economics with Financial Literacy</li> </ul>
1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts*
1 Credit Physical Education*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To include the integration of health</li> </ul>
*Eligible courses and eligible course substitutions are specified in the Florida Course Code Directory at <a href="http://www.fldoe.org/articulation/CCD">http://www.fldoe.org/articulation/CCD</a> .
8 Elective Credits
1 Online Course
Students must earn a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

## Standard Diploma Designation Requirements

Scholar Diploma Designation
<p>In addition to meeting the 24-credit standard high school diploma requirements, a student must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Earn 1 credit in Algebra II (must pass EOC);</li> <li>• Pass the Geometry EOC;</li> <li>• Earn 1 credit in statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course;</li> <li>• Pass the Biology I EOC;</li> <li>• Earn 1 credit in chemistry or physics;</li> <li>• Earn 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to chemistry or physics;</li> <li>• Pass the U.S. History EOC;</li> <li>• Earn 2 credits in the same world language; and</li> <li>• Earn at least 1 credit in AP, IB, AICE or a dual enrollment course.</li> </ul> <p>A student is exempt from the Biology I or U.S. History assessment if the student is enrolled in an AP, IB or AICE Biology I or U.S. History course and the student.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Takes the respective AP, IB or AICE assessment; and</li> <li>• Earns the minimum score to earn college credit.</li> </ul>
Merit Diploma Designation
<p>Meet the standard high school diploma requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attain one or more industry certifications from the list established (per section 1003.492, Florida Statutes).</li> </ul>

## Public Postsecondary Options

State University System
<p>Admission into Florida's public universities is competitive. Prospective students should complete a rigorous curriculum in high school and apply to more than one university to increase their chance for acceptance. To qualify to enter one of Florida's public universities, a first-time-in-college student must meet the following minimum requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High school graduation with a standard diploma</li> <li>• Admission test scores</li> <li>• 16 Credits of approved college preparatory academic courses - 4 English (3 with substantial writing)</li> <li>• 4 Mathematics (Algebra I level and above)</li> <li>• 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)</li> <li>• 3 Social Science</li> <li>• 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language)</li> <li>• 2 Approved electives <a href="http://www.flbog.edu/forstudents/planning">http://www.flbog.edu/forstudents/planning</a></li> </ul>
The Florida College System
<p>The 28 state colleges offer career-related certificates and two-year associate degrees that prepare students to transfer to a bachelor's degree program or to enter jobs requiring specific skills. Many also offer baccalaureate degrees in high-demand fields. Florida College System institutions have an open door policy. This means that students, who have earned a standard high school diploma, have earned a high school equivalency diploma or have demonstrated success in postsecondary coursework will be admitted to an associate degree program. <a href="http://www.fldoe.org/schools/higher-ed/fl-college-system/index.shtml">http://www.fldoe.org/schools/higher-ed/fl-college-system/index.shtml</a></p>
Career and Technical Centers
<p>Florida also offers students 46 accredited career and technical centers throughout the state, which provide the education and certification necessary to work in a particular career or technical field. Programs are flexible for students and provide industry-specific education and training for a wide variety of occupations. Career and Technical Directors:</p> <p><a href="http://data.fldoe.org/workforce/contacts/default.cfm?action=showList&amp;ListID=8">http://data.fldoe.org/workforce/contacts/default.cfm?action=showList&amp;ListID=8</a></p>

## 24-credit Program: Graduate Early

Yes, a student who completes all the 24-credit program requirements for a standard diploma may graduate in fewer than eight semesters.

## Distinction Between 18-Credit ACCEL Option and 24-Credit Option

3 elective credits instead of 8; Physical Education is not required; Online course is not required. All other graduation requirements for a 24-credit standard diploma must be met (per s. 1003.4282(3)(a)-(e), F.S.).

## Bright Futures Scholarships

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program rewards students for their academic achievements during high school by providing funding to attend a postsecondary institution in Florida. For more information, visit <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf/>.

## Financial Aid Information

The Office of Student Financial Assistance State Programs administers a variety of postsecondary educational state funded grants and scholarships. To learn more, visit <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/>.

## Useful Websites and Links for Parents and Students

- A. College Board:** [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)  
Information and registration for AP and SAT tests, and College Planning and Career Search  
**College Search:** [www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org)
- B. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA):** <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>  
Office of Federal Student Aid provides grants, loans, and work-study funds for college or technical school, offering more than \$150 billion each year to help millions of students pay for higher education
- C. Florida Virtual School:** [www.FLVS.net](http://www.FLVS.net)  
Online classes offered by Florida Virtual School. All course requests require counselor approval
- D. Naviance:** <https://connection.naviance.com/family-connection/auth/login/?hsid=ossmhcs>  
Naviance is a web-portal that provides a unique experience to our students and guides them towards a career path and college readiness. Naviance Succeed is used by more than 4,200 schools and 100,000 educators in 72 countries. Students and families are provided with access to Family Connection. Using the tools provided, students map their own path starting with assessments to learn more about themselves, progressing to goal setting and career exploration, and then setting a plan to achieve their goals.
- E. Common App:** [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)  
The Common Application (informally known as the Common App) is an undergraduate college admission application that applicants may use to apply to any of 517 member colleges and universities in 47 states and the District of Columbia, as well as in Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, and United Kingdom.
- F. Project Lead the Way:** <https://my.pltw.org>  
Project Lead The Way (PLTW) is the nation's leading provider of K-12 STEM programs. The curriculum and high-quality teacher professional development model, combined with an engaged network of educators and corporate and community partners, help students develop the skills necessary to succeed. This year, we are implementing PLTW - Pathway to Engineering and Biomedical Science Academy. Students can access with their login information to PLTW Online Learning Management System and see the instructors assignments and projects and their grades.

## Scholarship Search Resources:

1. OCPS Scholarship Bulletin
2. [www.Collegeboard.com](http://www.Collegeboard.com)
3. [www.Fastweb.com](http://www.Fastweb.com)
4. [www.Scholarships.com](http://www.Scholarships.com)
5. [www.CollegeNet.com](http://www.CollegeNet.com)
6. [www.ScholarshipMonkey.com](http://www.ScholarshipMonkey.com)
7. [www.unigo.com](http://www.unigo.com)
8. [www.Cappex.com](http://www.Cappex.com)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Announcements

Official announcements are provided on our website – [www.Orlandoscience.org](http://www.Orlandoscience.org) - and in our weekly newsletter. As a common practice, announcements made by the administration, which affect the school community, are made through these two communication devices. OSS encourages parent(s)/guardian(s) to check our website on a regular (daily) basis. The Governing Board, administration, teachers and staff at OSS are dedicated to keeping our community informed.

### Book Bags, Backpacks, Pencil Bags, Roller Bags and Purses

Students may use book bags to transport only school materials to and from school. During the school day, however, OSS requires that all book bags remain in students' lockers. **Roller bags are NOT ALLOWED to be used in the building.** All book bags must be small enough to fit easily inside the locker. Only handheld pencil bags are permitted – pencil bags worn on the back (or any bag worn on the back) must remain in students' lockers. Only handheld purses are permitted – purses worn on the back must remain in student's lockers.

### Cellular Telephones/Electronic Devices

Although students are permitted to bring cell phones to school, it is not encouraged. If a student brings a cell phone to school, it may not be used inside the school building without permission from OSS staff. The cell phone must be turned off before entering the school building and immediately placed in the student's locker. Students may not carry the phone with them during school hours. Students shall not use them, display them openly, or leave them in the "on" position during regular school hours. Regular school hours at Orlando Science High School campus are 7:45 a.m. to 2:35 p.m. If student is scheduled for an after-school activity, including but not limited to clubs and tutoring, cell phone shall be kept off until such activity is over. Cell phones must be turned off and must be in lockers during the school hours. The policy applies to any type of use not just voice calls. Cell phones may not be used during the school day to take photographs or to send or receive text messages. Students should check their cell phone before entering the building and make sure that it is in the "off" position. Students who are found in possession of a pager or cellular telephone shall have the item confiscated by the resource officer or school administrator. The cell phone will only be returned directly to the parent/guardian. Students are not permitted to play music on electronic devices in the dismissal area without using personal headphones. The music must be school appropriate.

If a parent/guardian cannot pick them up items may also be shipped to a home address provided that the shipping charges are prepaid by the parent. This rule applies but is not limited to other electronic devices such as Digital Cameras, PDA's, blackberry, Mp3/Mp4 player, iPod, iTouch, iPad, radios, and electronic reading devices (Kindle, Nook, etc.) At no time shall OSS be responsible for theft, loss or damage to cell phones or other electronic devices brought onto its property.

### Classroom Observations

OSS values the concept of parents as partners in education. Parent and community support and assistance are vital in all facets of the school program. Parents of currently enrolled students or prospective students may wish to observe the classroom setting or perhaps volunteer to serve as an instructional partner in the classroom. To minimize disruption of the classroom environment, all classroom observations are limited to one per semester and must be scheduled one week in advance with the Principal.

### Corrections and/or Modifications to This Handbook

OSS reserves the right to make changes or modifications to this handbook as needed throughout the school year. Changes or modifications made during the school year will be announced in the weekly newsletter. The latest version will always be available on our website at [www.Orlandoscience.org](http://www.Orlandoscience.org).

### Definitions and/or Interpretations Used in This Handbook

For purposes of clarity, many terms and situations have been defined or explained in an effort to explicitly determine the exact meaning or context. The OSS administration will determine and apply specific definitions and interpretations where necessary to provide maximum security, safety and educational opportunities for OSS students. No other definition or interpretation, nor any other source may be used or applied to terms or situations described within this handbook.

### Emergency Drills

Regular emergency preparedness drills will be held throughout the school year so that students will be trained to act properly in an emergency. These drills will include fire, tornado, and other crisis emergency drills. A comprehensive emergency preparedness plan is on file in the office.

### Lockers

Each student will be assigned a locker for his/her individual use at OSS. This locker is for storing books, coats, and personal items necessary for school. Students should not bring valuable items from home. OSS will not be liable for personal items you leave in your locker or bring to school with you. To keep your school items safe, we strongly advise you to keep your locker combination and space private. Do not trade lockers with another student. Do not let another student share your locker. It is your responsibility to see that your locker is kept locked and in order at all times. You should report any damage,

vandalism, or the inoperable condition of your locker to the office. If you do not report vandalism, damage, or the inoperable condition of your locker, you will be held responsible for it. Please remember that your locker is school property and remains at all times under the control of the school. You, however, have full responsibility for the security of your locker and what is in it. Lockers must be kept neat at all times. School officials may make inspections. No item considered dangerous by the administration may be kept in the lockers and will be removed if found there. This includes glass or any other objects that may be potentially dangerous. **Students attending OSS should not expect privacy regarding the contents of their lockers, desks, or other school property.** Due to the small size of OSS's lockers, book bags must be small enough to fit within the locker - extra-large book bags are not advised. **The cost of renting a school locker will be determined and announced on orientation day.**

## Lost and Found

Personal items that are found should be turned in the designated Lost and Found area. Students should check the area for lost articles. Unclaimed items will be donated to charity every month after students are informed about the deadlines to check lost and found items. OSS is not responsible for items in Lost and Found. The lost and found is cleaned out monthly.

## Metal Detectors & Scans

In accordance with Orange County Public Schools procedure, periodic scans with a metal detector may be conducted throughout the school. A plan will be established prior to the scanning to ensure randomness. A report of the scanning process will be documented and submitted to the Principal.

## Materials Distribution

OSS has a "closed forum" relative to the distribution of materials or posting such materials on school grounds or property. It is for this reason that flyers, brochures and/or other materials may not be handed out on campus prior to, during or following the school day. Unless it is approved by the administration, distribution, selling, ordering, and consuming external food items or goods are prohibited, and will be confiscated.

## Missing Items

When an item is missing, students should report the missing item to Administration. At that time, the student should complete a **Missing Items Form** which will permit the item to be returned to the owner should it be found or located. Should the owner find the item themselves or it be returned directly to them, they should notify the Assistant Principal as soon as the item has been located.

## Parking and Traffic Circulation

Parents, guardians, and students should follow the rules of OSS Traffic Circulation/Parking Agreement and designated personnel's directions in the drop off and dismissal area. Student parking permits are contingent on disciplinary actions, tardiness, and GPA. Please refer to student parking pass forms for detailed requirements. Student parking passes may be suspended and revoked due to the failure of adherence to school rules and requirements.

## Parent Participation

There are a number of opportunities at OSS which a parent can volunteer. Among these are jobs as library assistants, cafeteria aides, clinic volunteers, room representatives, and instructional partners. Contact the office for more information about being volunteer at OSS. Each volunteer must be registered and approved by OCPS volunteer system, ADDitions.

## Payments

Parents may take care of monetary obligations by check or SchoolPay®. Checks should be made payable to OSS. There will be **\$25** additional charge for any check returned to the school. Parents may also make their payments through SchoolPay accounts. More information about the school pay option may be found at the school website.

## Recording Devices – Audio or Video

OSS prohibits the use of audio or video recording equipment by anyone other than OSS staff or personnel on the OSS campus, within the school building, or at school sponsored events (on or off campus) without express written permission from the OSS Administration. Students found in violation will have their recording device confiscated and be given a **Disciplinary Referral Form** for unauthorized recording. Parents or non-OSS personnel found in violation will immediately be required to leave - if uncooperative, appropriate law enforcement authorities will be contacted to have them removed from the premises.

## Social Media

Social media use by students is a personal responsibility, and Orlando Science Schools is not responsible for student's use of social media. However, if the use of social media disrupts the educational process of any student, disciplinary action will be taken. **Misuse of social media that is considered any threats or harassments to students, staff or school will be referred to law enforcements.**



## Student Agenda / Hall Passes

Students must bring their agenda to school daily and carry it with them to all of their classes. All students in the hall while classes are in session must carry their agenda with them. There is a section for hall passes at the bottom of each page. Teachers will issue hall passes to students who have justifiable reasons for leaving the room. **An agenda will be issued to each child for a fee.** It is the student's responsibility to maintain their Student Agenda in the original condition as it was issued:

The front and back cover must not be altered or removed - The front cover and back cover must remain attached, and must not be altered, cut, or damaged in any way. **Student & Parent Handbook may not be removed** - The Student & Parent Handbook section must remain intact as a part of the Agenda so that students and parents may reference the school information and rules at any time. Dated pages may not be removed - Dated pages must remain in the Agenda for student, parent, and administrative reference to past assignments, phone permissions given, and/or hall passes issued. Should a Student Agenda fail to meet these requirements, it will be confiscated, and the student will be required to purchase another Student Agenda.

## Student I.D. Cards

Student I.D. cards are issued to all students for security and identification purposes. Should the safety and security of our students be compromised in any way, a "LOCK DOWN" scenario would occur where outside law enforcement authorities may be required to enter and secure the building – all OSS staff and students must be able to show proper identification. All students must have their Student I.D. Card with them at all times and present it immediately when requested by school personnel or law enforcement authorities. Additionally, students need to present their Student I.D. Card in the Library in order to check out books or other reference materials. **The Student I.D. Card will be issued at the beginning of the school year to each child for a fee.** A replacement cost will be required for lost or damaged cards. It is recommended that all students maintain their Student I.D. Card in their wallet, purse or attached to a lanyard.

## Telephone Calls

Students may not be called from class to talk on the telephone during school hours, nor are they allowed to make outgoing calls except in the most necessary circumstances. As part of an effort to teach responsibility, students are discouraged from calling home for forgotten items. **Students may not use any phone at school other than an office phone – classroom phones are prohibited from use by students at any time.** The school does not have sufficient phone lines to accommodate student phone calls at the end of the school day. All arrangements regarding after school activities must be made before the student leaves home in the morning. Calls of an emergency nature, that may involve the interruption of a class to deliver a message to a child, must be directed to the principal or assistant principal for approval. **Students must have permission from an administrator stating a reason in order to use the office phones between 7:45 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.** We ask that all students please come to school in the morning clearly knowing whether their parents expect them to ride the bus or be picked up by car in the afternoon. We also ask that parents please know whether or not their children are planning to stay for an after-school activity.

## Video or Audio Surveillance

OSS may use video or audio surveillance to monitor halls, classrooms, and common areas, to ensure student and faculty safety. Additionally, this video or audio surveillance may be used for evidence in disciplinary situations, as well as remote viewing or monitoring of various school activities, school entrances and school parking areas. Parents may request a viewing if any recording is used as evidence in a discipline case. Viewing requests by parents may be refused or limited where viewing would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy, would give rise to a concern for a third party's safety, or on any other grounds recognized in the Privacy Act. No other request of viewing may be honored. Approved viewings must be done in the presence of the principal or designate.

## Visitors to the Building

All visitors **must** enter through the front door, first report to, and sign in at the main office, and wear a visitor's badge before going to other parts of the building. Any visitor in the building without a badge will be asked to report back to the front office. Parents, guardians, or other visitors may be permitted to have lunch with their student. Parents must be registered and approved by OPCS Volunteer System, ADDitions. Parents must also be approved by ADDitions to volunteer or attend field trips.