

Notes from Options Parent Meeting 9-2-20
6:30 - 7:30

Mr. Cooper welcomed the parents and gave an overview and update on the Options program for elementary, middle, and high school students that included:

- Grades 6-12 will use Edgenuity with classes led by district staff
- Grades K-5 will use the Accelerate curriculum with support from teachers and IAs.
- All students will have the choice to be in a structured or independent learning environment
- Similarities and differences between structured and independent models in the Options program.
- Information that is shared tonight is still somewhat in the development stages and minor modifications may be made
- Asking parents to let us know, if they haven't already, which elementary choice they would like, whether they need a Chromebook, and if they have good internet access.

Thirty-two families attended the meeting.

The parents had the following general questions with answers shared by Mr. Cooper

Are the check-ins described in the Options Structured elementary schedule 1:1 or in a group?

The check-ins will be done in a group format with all the students.

Will there be check-ins for the Options Independent elementary students? There are different ways to check in for independent students, including turning in assignments, chat, text, phone, or email.

We are looking into setting up a standard check-in procedure at least once a week for the Independent students.

Will the check-in group be grade-specific or school-wide?

It depends on the number of students. Presently, the thinking is that the Zoom check-ins will be in grade bands (K-1, 2-3, and 4-5) but it may be by grade level if there are too many students.

How much curriculum will the independent learner receive at once: a week, month or other time frame?

Each week students will have a weekly calendar. At the elementary level, from the training we just received, the learners may be given a three-week marker where they should be at that time in each subject. It may be possible to adjust, after further training in Accelerate. In Edgenuity the entire semester scope and sequence is viewable by the student, but they will have to work through it in order.

Will the kids doing Options Independent get any sort of video instruction with the Accelerate curriculum?

Accelerate does embed asynchronous videos (videos taped for watching at a later time) depending on the subject, module, lesson, and grade level.

For kindergarten, will the students be working with one teacher to build a relationship and the same group of students using Zoom?

Yes, there will be one teacher working with both the K and 1 classes. There may be additional support from other teachers or IAs.

The course catalog for Accelerate has a couple of extra classes such as Scratch Coding for 5th grade. Will that be made available?

It may be something we could add at some point; would not start with it. We'll have to look into that.

Are the classes the same as what is currently listed in Home Access for the Independent choice? *The Accelerate classes are different from the Brick and Mortar elementary classes, but cover the same subjects and Oregon skillsets. The Edgenuity classes were actually custom-built by subject-area*

teachers at the middle school and high school, to align with their own curriculums in the master schedule. Most will align, a few, such as Art and PE, will not.

Will we need to print out any assignments? Some printing will be needed for Accelerate. If you don't have a printer, we can assist when it comes up in assignments. Much of the material can be completed online.

My daughter may be interested in Introduction to welding? Is it possible for her to participate in that class? It may be possible for her to take an elective class, such as shop or music, on campus, depending on capacity.

My daughter dances at a local studio, could she get credit for that? Told the parent we will check on it; we did check, we do not believe credit would be available for a dance class because there are other components, in addition to participation, to receive credit.

*What browsers are supported?
Chrome and Firefox.*

If after getting started in the structured side, we feel that we need less support and want to move to independent for more flexibility, is that possible? Definitely easy to change from Structured to Independent. It may be more difficult to change from Independent to Structured, depending on how well the student matches up with the structured pace in the curriculum.

My understanding was that, with the chromebooks from the district that you could pull into the parking lot and download the course for the day and work on it offline. Is that not the case? It may be possible in the regular school classes, but not with the Options classes.

How many teachers and staff are currently assigned to the options program? Five full time teachers and two or three instructional assistants, plus eight adjunct staff teaching individual sections for the 6-12 levels.

How many students are there to staff? This is a difficult question to answer, because registration is incomplete and parents are still moving students in and out of Options.

Is Accelerate adaptive? No, but it does have a spiraling curriculum, and the classroom teacher gets a constant stream of data on student performance and progress, and can make adjustments along the way.

Any sort of demo or tutorial we can watch to get a feel for the program? The logos on the Options webpage are links to the curriculum sites. There are also many youtube videos. Here is one with an overview of Accelerate: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6fwbyFpMhGU>.

How is the social aspect of zoom going to work? Can we opt into contact sharing for calls outside of school such as facetime or zoom as well? Under the Structured model, there will be interaction between student and teacher and between students. We will work with a parent subcommittee to generate ideas for social interaction—Athena Imholt, Blaine Hilton, Scott Wolgamott and Jennifer Chambers volunteered to help with that, we will set up a meeting soon.

I saw the basic supplies were listed. But will we get a list of the other supplies or just have to wait for weekly lesson plans? We are already in the process of cataloguing and ordering supplies that are not common household supplies (for Accelerate). If something unusual is needed (like a musical recorder), Options will supply the item or work to resolve the problem in a different way.