

Greetings OPTIONS Elementary Families



Welcome to OPTIONS K-5 Elementary! We're delighted you're joining us to begin a new school year in Fern Ridge's online program. **Our first week of school, September 7-10 has been designated by the Oregon Department of Education as Care and Connection week for students.** For our elementary families, who will be virtual, next week creates time for families to sign out Chromebooks, get information about OPTIONS and Accelerate, and meet with the teacher to get to know each other, get information, and ask questions. We'll be sending a Sign-Up link via email for you to schedule a convenient time for a twenty-five minute virtual meeting between 8:30 - 3:00 Sep 8-10. If you need a scheduled time outside those hours, please contact us.

Returning OPTIONS families from last year will be familiar with how most things work, but there are some changes this year.

THE STAFF

Ruth Lewis and Mari Jones are the support teachers this year. Ruth Lewis is beginning her tenth year in Fern Ridge as an intermediate level teacher. Last year, she taught the 4th and 5th grade students in OPTIONS. Mari Jones has over thirty years in Fern Ridge as a primary teacher, TOSA, and Title I specialist. Last year she was the OPTIONS Elementary Coordinator and primary teacher. This year, she will serve as OPTIONS Elementary Coordinator and Elementary Title Coordinator, so her time will be shared. Ms. Lewis and Mrs. Jones will co-teach the OPTIONS Elementary students so that either can be available depending on schedule and level. **Candice Stansell** is returning to OPTIONS as the main elementary instructional assistant. She has years of experience as a preschool teacher and business owner. **Emilee Brink** is returning to OPTIONS to assist both elementary and secondary. She will also take care of attendance. Emilee is currently in school to become a high school English teacher.

ATTENDANCE

Students will need to log into Accelerate and submit at least one assignment in any course (subject) each day by 1:30 pm in order to be marked present that day. If for some reason, your child will not be able to complete work that day, please contact Emilee Brink at ebrink@fernridge.k12.or.us or 541-952-7025 , otherwise the student will be marked absent.

ACCELERATE & GOOGLE CLASSROOM

The Accelerate program will become live on Monday, Sep 13. The program is designed to have a home learning coach (not always a parent) who is able to act as the child's main support person. The home learning coach will be looking at an overview of each course (subject) and guiding the student through the modules. The teachers are there to support the learning coach and student with any issues. The program is not intended for students to complete on their own nor will teachers be teaching virtual subject lessons. Here is the link to the resources, <https://learningcoach.accelerate.education/>

To log into OPTIONS Elementary 2021-22 Google Classroom and Accelerate, the device must be logged into the student's district account. The OPTIONS Elementary 2021-22 Google Classroom houses many resources for this year. You'll need to first join the new OPTIONS Google Classroom. Click on the upper right corner waffle and find Google Classroom. Once opened, click on the join or + in the upper right corner. The classroom code is **rnorrqu**. The link is here, <https://classroom.google.com/c/Mzg2Nzc0MDYwNDA0?cjc=rnorrqu> Please note that the Accelerate link in the waffle (3x3 dots in upper right corner) does not work, so just ignore it.

Once in the Google Classroom, you'll find a link to Accelerate, and other resources. To find the Accelerate link click the Classroom tab at the top and navigate to Accelerate Link in the left Topic column. You may bookmark

the link once on the Accelerate login page. I've included the link here: <https://accelerate-fernridge-elmiraopt.vs.school.com/>. After the first log in to Accelerate, your child should be able to log in without any user name or password. If that's not the case, use your child's full email username, which is their first_last initial, student number, and @student.oregonk-12.com, and password. If there is a prompt that asks if you want to save username and password for the future, say yes. Your child's name should show in the upper right corner. All the courses will show as tiles on that page. Click and choose a course (i.e. - subject, like Math or Language Arts) to begin Module 1 .

Elementary courses this semester are English Language Arts (ELA), Math, Science, Social Studies, and PE. We will not be assigning art or music courses, but they may be added upon request. There will be resources for art, music, and science in the OPTIONS 2021-22 Google Classroom. **Printed materials will be available beginning Wed, Sep 8 to pick up at the OPTIONS office located on the northeast corner of Elmira High School** (take a right at the Y on Fir Grove Lane and come to the back parking lot). Your child's name will be listed on the materials. The printed materials are provided so that families don't have to print their own (though they can) as the student works through the courses. **They are not a "packet" that students complete independent of the Accelerate program.**

Accelerate has assignments that need to be uploaded and others that they simply complete online. You can learn more about uploading assignments here in the Getting Started section: <https://learningcoach.accelerate.education/>. Uploading can be tricky, contact us if you have questions.

NEED HELP?

We will be having one grade band scheduled zoom meeting per week to check in, answer questions, and make connections (kinder/first, second/third, and fourth/fifth). We will also have virtual open office hours for learning coaches or students to drop in for help. We will let you know the days/times in the next week or so. You may also email or call at any time during the weekday. We are here to support you and your child this year! **Ruth Lewis' contact information is rlewis@fernridge.k12.or.us and 541-952-7025 ext #1505 or 541-833-0659.**

Thank you for including us in your child's educational journey. We appreciate the commitment you've made, we want your child to have a great year of learning.

"At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents."
Jane D. Hull

Kind regards,
Mari Jones
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