

Argenta-Oreana Middle School

2023-2024

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Where can I access a calendar for the school year?

Our district community calendar including school holidays and early dismissals is available on our website www.argenta-oreana.org

2. Where can I access a schedule of the extracurricular activities?

Extracurricular schedules can be found at <http://il.8to18.com/a-o>

3. What time does school begin and end?

The school day begins at 8:10 AM and ends at 3:04 PM. Students should be dropped off at the AO High School Entrance and should not be dropped off at school before 7:45 AM. Students may be picked up after school at the middle/high school parking lot.

4. How do I purchase breakfast and/or lunch?

Students should bring meal money to the middle school office. It is recommended that students bring checks to school. If paying for more than one student, write the names and amounts on the check. Middle school breakfast is \$1.50 and lunch is \$2.85. Students may purchase one lunch and may purchase extra milk for \$0.35.

5. How do I let the school know if my child is ill and not able to attend school?

When an unanticipated absence from school occurs, parents should call the middle school office between 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM or leave a message at 217-795-2163. All three schools have automated phone systems that allow you to leave a message before 8:00 AM.

If your child is very ill the night before school and you know they will not attend the next day, please call them in and leave a message. Calls made by students will not be accepted as appropriate. When you call, please state your name and your relationship to the student, the student's name, and the reason for the absence.

6. What if my student has a fever?

Fever is a warning that all is not right with the body. Check for fever with a thermometer. District policy states that a child should not be sent to school with a temperature over 100.4 degrees. Your child should be fever-free without the use of medication to reduce the fever (i.e., Tylenol or Ibuprofen) for 24 hours before returning to school.

7. If absent, how many days do I have to make up work?

Students have one school day for each excused day of absence to make up assignments. Upon returning to school, the student will have the same number of days that they were absent to make up the assignments. A maximum of ten school days will be allowed for lengthy absences with all assignments due in class on the eleventh school day unless special circumstances warrant an extension with administrator approval.

8. What are the guidelines for a pre-arranged absence?

A written request for assignments should be submitted to the office one week before a planned absence. It is the student's responsibility to make up the work that is missed whether pre-arranged or not. Assignments received in advance are to be completed by the time the student returns to

school. If work is not completed when requested, credit for that work may be denied.

9. Can my student take medication at school?

Taking medication during school hours or during school-related activities is prohibited unless it is necessary for a student's health and well-being. When a student's licensed health care provider and parent/guardian believe that it is necessary for the student to take medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent/guardian must request that the school dispense the medication to the child by completing a "School Medication Authorization Form."

No school or district employee is allowed to administer to any student, or supervise a student's self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed School Medication Authorization Form is submitted by the student's parent/guardian. No student is allowed to possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this procedure.

10. What are the academic requirements?

Core Classes: English, Literature, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

Electives: Art: Band, Chorus, Computers, Consumer Education, and Music Appreciation

All students are required to take Physical Education.

Grading Scale:

A 90-100	EXCELLENT	A = 5
B 80-89	ABOVE AVG.	B = 4
C 70-79	AVERAGE	C = 3
D 60-69	BELOW AVG.	D = 2
F 0-59	FAILING	F = 1
I	INCOMPLETE	

HIGH HONOR ROLL GPA: 4.75 - 5.00 in Core Classes

HONOR ROLL GPA: 4.25 - 4.74 in Core Classes

When assigning a semester course letter grade, the two quarter grades will be averaged, to determine the overall percentage for the semester. A 60% average must be attained to receive credit for the semester.

A student must pass 3 of the core subjects, with a 60% average, for each semester in order to be promoted to the next grade.

An "I" will be put on the report card when work is incomplete due to excused absences at the end of a grading period. Work must be completed within two weeks according to board policy. If not, the grade will become an F or NA. If the work is completed, the I is changed to whatever grade the student has earned.

The State of Illinois school law requires that every student must pass the United States Constitution and the Illinois Constitution tests in order to be promoted from the eighth grade into high school.

11. How can I monitor my student's academic progress?

Student grades and academic progress as well as additional announcements can be found at www.teacherease.com You can get your account information from the Middle School Office by phone at 217-795-4821 or email at mwilliams@argenta-oreana.org.

12. What do I do if my child is struggling in a particular class?

We strive to maintain open lines of communication between home and school. We are also a "Chain of Command" school district. This means that we believe in communicating with those most likely to help address concerns or answer questions. If you are concerned about the progress of your child in a particular class, please call the school at 217-795-2163, and ask to speak to your child's teacher. You may also email the teacher using the staff email list, <https://www.argenta-oreana.org/o/ao-middle-school/staff>

13. What is Academic Late Stay?

If your child is not performing to his or her ability in any class, an Academic Late Stay may be recommended. During Academic Late Stay, your child can get one-on-one help from the referring teacher after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays until 3:30 PM and receive additional help from the supervisor until 4:30 PM.

14. Who is eligible to ride the Academic Late Stay Bus?

Students who stay after school for academic assistance, whether attending Academic Late Stay or working with a teacher, are eligible to ride the Academic Late Stay Bus. Students are not to ride this bus for extracurricular practices or events.

15. What time will I get home from Academic Late Stay?

The Academic Late Stay Bus leaves the school at approximately 4:30 PM. Students will disembark the bus at their regular bus stop between 4:45-5:30 PM.

16. How does the school communicate upcoming events and information to the general public?

Daily announcements are sent to families via [TeacherEase](#)

The AOMS monthly newsletter is available on the school website <https://www.smores.com/j219b>

Middle School Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ArgentaOreanaMiddleSchool/>

17. Is a uniform required for PE? How do I get my P.E. uniform?

Yes, P.E. uniforms can be ordered at registration. The shirts are \$10.00 and the shorts are \$12.00.

18. What do I do if I have a conflict with another student?

It is always appropriate to talk to your teachers or an administrator regarding conflict or issues with other students.

19. Is there someone I can talk to if I am having problems?

All of our teachers and administrators are able to assist you. Also, the school counselor, Mrs. Mendez is available to help.