



Oakland Park  
Alternative Elementary School  
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*Mission: Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.*

August 1, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year!!!! Thank you for choosing Oakland Park for your child's education journey. Oakland Park is a special place where leaders are grown. I trust you had a safe and joyful summer break. The staff at Oakland Park will be returning soon and are eager to get this show on the road. Classroom assignments are complete. You can access your child's room assignments, which will include the teacher's name and room number, in your parent portal. Your child's teacher will be reaching out in the days to come. If you are unable to view your child's schedule, please call the school office.

Time really goes quickly. Many of your babies who started here in PK or KG are now moving up to 4th & 5th grade. I'll be starting my 8th year serving as the Proud Principal at Oakland Park Elementary. It has been a pleasure watching our children grow through the years. Each year we are improving our practices in anticipation of meeting our vision for your child. While we have a long way to go to meet our vision, we believe that all students are capable of learning. We work diligently to push our students towards their potential. Our vision states:

*"Oakland Park students will be proficient or higher in reading and mathematics by the end of their second-grade year. All students in grades 3-5 will maintain or surpass proficiency in Reading and Mathematics through the end of their fifth-grade year."*

Each year we are making gains towards this vision by ensuring more students exceed a typical year of growth in reading and mathematics. My priorities remain the same this school year. **Priority #1:** We will continue to make Early Literacy a focus to ensure our students have the foundational skills required to read. Attendance plays a key role during PK through second grade. **Priority #2:** We will prioritize our process to provide the appropriate intervention and support for all students who need help in reading and/or math. We know students come to us with all different types of learning needs, and we're equipped with high quality teachers to meet their needs so our students can meet their potential!

At Oakland Park we value family engagement. We love to interact with our families, evident by all of the fun events we have. I saw many of you at our 2nd annual National Night Out event on August 5th. It's essential to have a healthy relationship between home and school. Please consider us partners in your child's success. We also want the best for your child and share responsibility to ensure our children are prepared for their future. You can support our vision by staying connected with your child's teacher, volunteering/participating in

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events/meetings, and challenging your child to do their best every day they walk through our doors.

### **Back to School**

It's time to get the school year started. I hope you will join us on ***August 21st for "Back To School Night", from 5:00-6:30. The first day of school for grades 1-5 will be August 25th.*** We need your help "clapping in our students as they come into the building that morning starting at 8:30 a.m. The first 3 days of school, students entering Kindergarten will be scheduling a 1-1 Kindergarten Readiness Assessment with their Kindergarten Teacher. ***The first official day for all Kindergarten students will be August 28th.*** PK students will have a scheduled family orientation with their PK Teacher(s) September 2-3 to prepare for the ***start of PK on September 4th.***

### **Attendance**

Oakland Park typically has an attendance rate of more than 90%. Last school year, ***we remained around 89% attendance for the school year. 39.5% (115 students) of our students were chronically absent.*** Chronically absent, by definition, are ***students who have missed 10% or more of their school year.*** Student attendance is staple for student performance and growth. Our goal this year is to ***improve our rate of chronic absenteeism from 39.5% to 36.1% or better.*** Chronic absenteeism is generated through House Bill 410. When a student is trending towards chronic absences a notification letter is automatically generated and mailed out. Students cannot learn if they aren't at school receiving the proper support.

### **Newly Enrolled to Oakland Park?**

***Welcome to our newest students and families!*** Thank you for joining our Oakland Park Family. We're looking forward to partnering with you to ensure your child receives the education they deserve. I have no doubt that you will be satisfied and enjoy being a part of the Oakland Park Family.

I can't wait to see your children back in the building. The beginning of school is always a very special time at Oakland Park. Our staff truly misses your children throughout the summer break. All the smiles come out on the first day of school. While we don't allow families to enter the building at the start of the school day, (exception PK & KG on their first day only) I would like to invite you to be a part of our First Day clap-in on August 25th at 8:30 a.m.. You and others will line up outside to cheer on our students as they walk through the doors for the first time this school year. I appreciate you for trusting Oakland Park Alternative School to provide a high-quality academic experience for your child(ren). I look forward to working with you to ensure our children have a successful school year! Please update your phone numbers/addresses/emails...etc. so you will receive any updates I may need to communicate regarding the opening of school.

Enjoy the remainder of summer break! We'll see you at Back To School Night!

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Caudill  
Principal  
Oakland Park Alternative Elementary School