



Owatonna Christian School
265 26th Street NE
Owatonna, MN 55060
(507) 451-3495 (phone)
(507) 451-3762 (fax)
www.owatonnachristianschool.org

OCS Education Model and Alpha Omega Questions & Answers

Q: Describe the proposed new learning model planned for OCS next year.

A: In simplest terms: No change through 6th grade. For 7-12 grades, a hybrid model of online learning and live teaching. The 7th and 8th grade group will be mostly traditional, live instruction with some supplemental online help. For 9-12th grade, it will be primarily online instruction with live instruction for a few classes. Our goal is to keep the best of both options while eliminating the worst of both options.

Q: When considering the curriculum and instruction plan for next year, what were your most important priorities?

A: At OCS, our highest priority is always to serve and honor God. This means our school remains Christ-focused and a biblical worldview must be central to any curriculum or instruction plans we utilize. The program must be helpful and accessible to parents. We aim to provide a quality Christian education while remaining good stewards of the resources God provides. This new direction allows us to offer more options to our students than we could under a traditional classroom model.

Q: Why make the change to an alternative learning model now? Is there really a need to make a change?

A: There are many reasons for the proposed change. The reduced number of students in the secondary is a primary reason. Despite our reduced numbers, these students deserve quality instruction. Furthermore, these students deserve a more diverse course selection that we simply cannot provide under our existing format. Online education is becoming more "traditional" all the time. It's pretty hard to find a school or university that is not using online courses and lessons. This is the time to make these improvements.

Q: What happens to current teachers under this new model?

A: Secondary classes will utilize a hybrid learning model; there will be both on-line and live teaching. While students are taking on-line courses, there will be a teacher monitoring the classroom, and some live classes will continue. Current teachers will be offered contracts before new teachers would be hired. We will continue to evaluate our need for teachers on an ongoing basis.

Q: Why increase tuition now?

A: The tuition is a direct reflection of a portion of the costs in assisting in the education of students.

Because of the generous support of Grace Baptist Church and others in our community, not all of the direct costs are passed along in the form of tuition.

Q: Of the programs available, why did you choose the Alpha Omega Program?

A: We are fortunate, in our school committee, to have some expertise in the area of online learning. Examination of dozens of programs revealed two programs that stood out as the best options available: Liberty University Online Academy and Alpha Omega Academy. Upon close analysis and comparison of both programs, we determined Alpha Omega was a better fit for the specific needs of OCS.

Q: How does this impact PSEO availability?

A: PSEO is still an option through Northwestern, and, on a limited case by case basis, through Riverland.

Benefits of the new education model for OCS

- A Selective Hybrid : High Quality, Biblically Integrated Christian Education
- Comprehensive Scope and Sequence
- Expanded Course Offerings and Educational Resources
- Course offerings include: Science, English History, Math, Spanish, French, Electives such as Computer Applications, Family & Consumer Science, History of the Constitution, Trigonometry, Music Appreciation, etc.
- Fully integrated technology solutions and applications
- Access to Course and Subject Matter Experts
- Alignment with New Minnesota State Guidelines
- Accredited institution
- Support for parents and students
- Anytime, anywhere learning, including Summer School