

SOUTH WASCO COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

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Dec. 28, 2020

Dear Students, Parents and Staff,

On Wednesday, Dec. 23rd Kate Brown announced that Oregon schools, and the reopening of Oregon schools will no longer be connected to the state or county COVID numbers. Stating that as we move forward in the new year, all school districts are to confer with their local health departments on their plan to reopen school to onsite instruction. If COVID outbreaks occur within a school, we will be notified by North Central Health Department and follow their guidance on when, and if to close due to those cases.

As stated in an earlier letter, it has been found that schools are among the safest places to be in regards to COVID transmission. We are not immune to cases, but with the many safety protocols and by being able to control our environments, schools have seen few cases when compared to the county numbers the school resides in.

We do want to be vigilant with our plan to transition students K-12 back into school. After visiting with the health department, school leaders in our county and neighboring small schools, our plan is similar to what I have been told will happen in small schools regionally.

With winter holiday season in full force, and with New Year's Eve celebrations right around the corner, schools have been counseled that it would be wise to keep all students in distance learning for the first week back from winter break. It is important to remember that a few cases will shut the district down to onsite instruction. A few cases within the staff will potentially shut onsite learning down for a longer time period, as schools are seeing a lack of substitutes at this time.

Here is what our transition will look like, barring any COVID cases which may affect this plan:

Jan. 4th

- All students K-12 will be receiving instruction through Comprehensive Distance Learning (online).

Jan. 11th

- K-8 will return to onsite instruction. 7-8th grades will begin our late start schedule starting classes at 10:00 and going until 4:00.

Jan. 18th

- High School students will return to class on the 10:00-4:00 schedule.

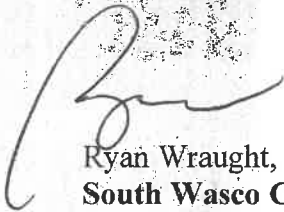
Family Choice

Please also note that we are committed to providing instruction for students and families who choose to stay in distance learning. Please call the school office for support.

As we are beginning to see a light at the end of a very stressful, challenging and dark tunnel, I would like to thank you again for your patience and support as we have navigated this everchanging situation over the last nine months or so.

I do believe we will see continued challenges ahead with COVID but seeing that schools will begin to see something that resembles “normal” gives me hope that this will all be a distant memory at some point.

Sincerely,



Ryan Wraught, *Superintendent*
South Wasco County School District #1