

Andy Grzeskowiak – Superintendent Report & Communications  
SSD 97J Board of Directors Meeting April 14, 2021

**New Employees – as per Board contract approval of position**

**New Hires:**

Christine Seitsinger, Special Education Teacher – Resource Room, Siuslaw Middle School  
**Position: Special Education Teacher – Resource Room**  
**Education: BA, University of La Verne – Education, MA, University of La Verne – Special Education**  
**Years in Education: 20**

Sadie Cervantes, Special Education Life Skills Aide, Siuslaw Elementary School  
Aaron McNeill, MS Girls Basketball Coach, Siuslaw Middle School

**Retirements / Resignations**

Steve Moser, Counselor, Siuslaw High School  
Stephanie Rogers, Alternative Education/Health Sciences Teacher, Siuslaw High School/Siuslaw West  
Rachel Foster, Special Education Teacher, Siuslaw Elementary (Retirement)  
Marty Zdunich, Director of Technology, Siuslaw School District  
Heather Costa, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher, Siuslaw Elementary School  
Monica Butler, Kindergarten Teacher, Siuslaw Elementary

**State & County Metrics**

As of the April 5, 2021, the general school metrics report from the Oregon Health Authority –

Week Of	County Case Rate / 100k	County Test Positivity
2/28 – 3/13	58.9	1.1%
3/7 – 3/20	46.7	0.7%
3/14 – 3/27	60.2	1.3%
3/21 – 4/3	88.7	2.2%

On-site testing is available for students and staff that may feel ill, show signs of illness, or may have been exposed to COVID-19 while at school. Each school site has been issued Abbott Binax NOW Rapid nasal swab tests by the Oregon Health Authority. The test is self-administered and monitored by a staff member, with results available in about fifteen minutes.

Sports activities, events, and facility use still fall under the County Risk Level Guidance system being used by the state. Lane County is currently in the Lower Risk category even though the current data report qualifies the county for a Moderate Risk assignment. As Lane County was in Moderate Risk in the prior assessment phase having moved down from High Risk, so Lane County is now in a two-week caution period. If the case counts hold or

increase, we will move to Moderate or High Risk at the next assignment period on April 20. This will reduce outdoor event capacity to 25% at Moderate and 15% at High Risk for the 2-week period of April 23 to May 7, at a minimum.

### State Testing – Required Administration

The testing waiver for this year was not granted by the federal department of education. A plan for reduced testing was accepted as an alternative. The number of subject areas and the length of each test has been scaled back. The primary tests, English Language Arts & Mathematics, are reduced by approximated 67% from prior years. The time reduction on the Science test is estimated to be 10 minutes from prior tests. Oregon's Extended Assessments, the alternative assessments specifically designed for students with cognitive disabilities, are estimated to be reduced by 25% overall. Grades 3 through 7 take a test in a single subject area, while the 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders are required to test in two subject areas.

The testing window is open from April 13 through June 11, 2021.

#### Oregon Department of Education – Summative Assessment Administration Information

Grade Level	Required Subject Test*	Estimated Time
3 <sup>rd</sup>	English Language Arts	1 hour
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mathematics	1 hour 10 min
5 <sup>th</sup>	Science	1 hour 20 min
6 <sup>th</sup>	English Language Arts	1 hour
7 <sup>th</sup>	Mathematics	1 hour 5 min
7 <sup>th</sup>	English Language Arts	1 hour 10 min
8 <sup>th</sup>	Mathematics	1 hour 5 min
8 <sup>th</sup>	Science	1 hour 20 min
11 <sup>th</sup>	English Language Arts	1 hour
11 <sup>th</sup>	Mathematics	50 minutes

\*As in prior years, parents may 'opt-out' students from required test administrations per House Bill 2655.

The opt-out forms are located on the school website thru the main, right side, menu – [State Testing and Opt-Out](#) or by a [direct link to the form](#).

### Ready Schools, Safe Learners – Version 3.6.2

Siuslaw Schools are well ahead of the mandates to begin on-site instruction prior to April 19, 2021.

While there has been many changes recently in the guidelines and regulations at both the state and federal level with regards to school re-openings, there are still certain limitations that restrict full, general operations.

The basic cohort limit is still in place and did not change as the physical distance limit changed for students from 6ft to 3ft in many school settings. At meal times, the student limit still remains at 6ft – this is a limiting factor. The adult physical distance limit is still 6ft at all times.

Elementary classes operate in a self-contained manner, with limited rotation to music or physical education. Considering the number of students remaining in distance learning, the A and B groups can be safely combined to operate into single class groups. These class groups will be on-campus together, Monday thru Thursday, beginning in May. In making this shift, these groups will be dropping a daily virtual distance learning component. If, in the event of a COVID-19 exposure that forces a class or grade level off-campus, distance learning would be the primary mode of instruction until the isolation period is lifted by Lane County Public Health. Mr. Harklerode's administrative report will detail out the implementation elementary operations for May thru the end of the school year.

High school classes are not self-contained. To keep students on track with courses directly related to their academic level, electives and credits towards graduation, they rotate in a structured manner between periods as classrooms are cleaned. Even with the changes in physical distancing requirements, since students rotate into different groupings, it is not enough at this level to bring both the A and B groups together. Simply bringing both groups together, especially in light of the recent upswing in teenage cases locally and across the county, would most likely require a return to distance learning for at least two weeks with the likelihood of an on-campus case.

- At the turn of the quarter there are more students returning from Distance Learning, bringing up the size of each A and B group
- There are new students moving into the district – they would be locked out of hybrid learning
- Transportation is a limiting factor – by cohort day and cycle with elementary schedule each school day
- Middle school classes have the same general limiting factors and thresholds

Where there is potential flexibility and room for expansion for on-campus instruction

- Increasing each cohort group by roughly 25% – classroom margin from physical distance change
- Expansion of on-campus cohort day – this would require a decrease in the virtual afternoon and a balance with elementary transportation schedule

Expanding cohorts with returning distance learning students or expanding learning time of the on-campus cohort day could be done without need to re-schedule students or re-write attendance day or bell schedule rotations for classes. The core structure of the middle and high school master schedules could stay in place without having to alter the databases.

## Activities, Meetings & other Engagements

April 12 – Sources of Strength – Suicide Intervention Program  
April 12 – Oregon Department of Education – Office Hours  
April 12 – Facility Advisory – Elmira Site Tour  
April 13 – High School Success/Measure 98 – Peer Review & Grant Approval  
April 13 – Oregon Association of School Executives – Quarterly Meeting  
April 13 – Facility Advisory Committee  
April 14 – Siuslaw SD 97J – Regular Board Meeting  
April 15 – Lane County Public Health – Regular Meeting  
April 16 – Facility Advisory – SES Site Tour  
April 19 – Western Lane Emergency Operations Group  
April 19 – Oregon Department of Education – Office Hours  
April 20 – Lane ESD Superintendents Council – return to on-site, in person meeting – Lane ESD, Eugene  
April 21 – District Safety Committee  
April 22 – Lane County Public Health – regular meeting  
April 26 – Siuslaw Education Foundation  
April 26 – Oregon Department of Education – Office Hours  
April 27 – District Policy Review  
April 29 – Lane County Public Health – regular meeting  
May 3 – Oregon Department of Education – Office Hours  
May 4-6 – Synergy/Edupoint – Master Schedule Builder Clinic  
May 10-11 – Siuslaw Pre-Audit  
May 10 – Oregon Department of Education – Office Hours  
May 11 – Oregon Association of School Executives – Budget & Legislative Meeting  
May 12 – Siuslaw SD 97J – Regular Board Meeting  
May 12 – CTE – Construction Regional Advisory Board Meeting  
May 13 – Lane County Public Health – regular meeting  
May 17 – Oregon Department of Education – Office Hours  
May 18 – Lane ESD Superintendents Council – return to on-site, in person meeting – Lane ESD, Eugene  
May 19 – Siuslaw Safety Committee Meeting  
May 20 – Lane County Public Health – regular meeting  
May 24 – Oregon Department of Education – Office Hours  
May 27 – Lane County Public Health – regular meeting