

Sherman County School



"Home of the Huskies"

December 14, 2021

Dear Sherman County School Community,

As we have all witnessed recently, winter has arrived in Sherman County! Various types of inclement weather or power outages may have an impact on school operations. As always, our top priority is the safety of our students, staff and school community.

We make the decision to open or close school during inclement weather conditions based on an extremely thorough analysis of all relevant factors continuing until a final decision is made prior to 6:00 a.m. These decisions are not always perfect and are often complicated by our varied elevations and unpredictable weather in our geographically diverse county.

For the 2021-22 school year, we are again fortunate to have the capability to pivot to a Comprehensive Distance Learning (virtual) option on a moment's notice. This alternative is an effective way for us to continue instruction during inclement weather days (barring no power outages or countywide internet issues). This year we will again not implement 2-hour delays, but we still would have the potential of an early release if we are on-site and a weather event necessitates a decision to send students and staff home early.

If a school closure, early dismissal or temporary pivot to virtual learning occurs, I will communicate through our School Messenger system as well as post on our school website and Sherman County School App. This method of communication has proven to be very effective. Please remember that parents/guardians/staff can be prepared to receive prompt communication from the school by ensuring that phone numbers/emails are up-to-date with school office staff. You can do this by calling Sherman County School at 541-565-3500.

In the event we need to implement or alter certain bus routes, this may be communicated to you through the School Messenger system. Oftentimes representatives from Mid-Columbia Bus Company will also personally contact certain families to communicate any alterations to transportation plans. If, for some reason, Sherman County School closes completely (no school or virtual learning) for a full day due to inclement weather or other emergency situations, the ½ Day Friday at the end of that week will automatically become a full day Friday unless there is a school closure on that particular Friday. When there is a pivot to distance learning during the week, the ½ Day Friday at the end of the week will not be altered.

To always be prepared, please find attached our Sherman County School K-12 Comprehensive Distance Learning (virtual) Schedules. We want to make sure to share them with you again in order for us all to be prepared if a pivot to Comprehensive Distance Learning (virtual) is necessary. The schedules include K-5, 6, and 7-12.

Sherman County School wishes everyone a wonderful Holiday season and Happy New Year!

Respectfully,

Wes Owens
Superintendent