

# Oakridge School District 76

“Schools and community partnering to prepare students for productive citizenship.”

Reta Doland  
Superintendent  
76499 Rose St.  
Oakridge, Oregon 97463  
[rdoland@oakridge.k12.or.us](mailto:rdoland@oakridge.k12.or.us)  
[rdoland@ohswarriors.net](mailto:rdoland@ohswarriors.net)

To: A Message to Oakridge Parents and Students  
From: Superintendent Doland  
RE: Update on opening the 2020-2021 school year

The Oregon Department of Education issued guidance, “Ready Schools, Safe Learners” in June. This guidance was developed by ODE in collaboration with the Oregon Health Authority and many other partners. I along with all Superintendents in Oregon have been meeting with the Oregon Department of Education, Lane County Health, and other partners and school districts to develop and keep up to date on changes to the guidance for reopening schools.

District staff have been reviewing and developing Public Health, Facility, and Prevention and Response to Outbreak protocols for our Operational Blueprint. A survey to gather parent input from Distance Learning last spring and to gather input on reopening in the fall was shared in June. This information will help in our planning and decision making for opening school.

I would like to provide some general information involved in developing our Operational Blueprint for reopening. We are preparing to hold school under 3 models listed in this diagram.

## INSTRUCTIONAL MODELS 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

ON-SITE



HYBRID



COMPREHENSIVE  
DISTANCE LEARNING



### RESPONSE TO OUTBREAK

Districts, schools, and programs need to flexibly plan to use multiple models throughout the school year to meet evolving health conditions. Even when the primary plan is through an On-Site or Hybrid learning model, Short-Term Distance Learning may be required due to outbreaks.

supplemented by Comprehensive Distance Learning.

Current conditions, executive orders, and OHA guidance will dictate what course of action we take throughout the continuation of COVID 19. Please keep in mind the information I am sharing is in the planning stages and is subject to change.

**On-Site Model:**

Our hope is to open the 2020-2021 school year on site with hybrid and online educational opportunities for families that would like them. We are preparing to hold school in our schools. At this time it is unclear if this will be possible at the beginning of the school year. Therefore, we are developing alternatives to hold school safely.

**Hybrid Learning Model:**

Students would be in school and away from school. This model will be used if we do not have the ability to follow all requirements in the Ready Schools, Safe Learners guidance with all students at school at the same time or if we have an outbreak of COVID19 that requires some students to be quarantined while recovering from COVID19. We are developing multiple scenarios for cohorting our students in groups that make sense for families and programs if we need to use this model. This model involves cohorting groups of students in smaller groups that stay together on buses, breaks, classes etc. This practice limits exposure to potential COVID19 cases in the school. We are planning cohort groups to keep families together. This would allow children within a household to be on the bus and in school at the same time. Students would have schedules that would be in school part of the time and learning from home via Acellus online curriculum and/or through virtual contact with the teacher on site in the classroom part time. Specific schedules will be shared with each student/family in August.

**Comprehensive Distance Learning:**

All students are engaged in learning through Comprehensive Distance Learning. Instruction will be remote with very limited exceptions for in-person support. This model would be utilized if the school needed to close due to a serious outbreak of COVID19 or by order of the Governor.

The Distance Learning model will be different and expanded from the model used in the spring. This model will include Acellus online curriculum and virtual connection to classroom teachers for instruction and support. We are adding wireless hotspots and are working on ways to do the same in specific places in our community.

**Next steps in planning will include**

1. Sharing Blueprint with:
  - a. Oakridge parents
  - b. Oakridge staff
  - c. School Board
  - d. Lane County Health
  - e. Oregon Department of Education
2. Supporting our staff with with:
  - a. New protocols for opening school
  - b. Conducting online learning
3. Supporting our students with:
  - a. New protocols for being in school
  - b. How to participate in online education
  - c. Keeping things as normal as possible under the new guidelines
4. Supporting our families by:
  - a. Providing options for children's education in person and online
  - b. Cohorting families to stay together in Hybrid models of learning
  - c. Keeping things as normal as possible under the new guidelines

A “2020-21 School Year Choice” survey is available on our website. In the survey you will share specific input about the learning models and transportation needs for your students. This information is critical as we move into the detailed planning that will take place in the next few weeks. Please complete this survey for each of your children.

Thank you to our families and community as we walk through the process of reopening school. The safety, security, and well being of your children and our community is always my uppermost concern. We will work to bring students back in as close to normal situations as possible as we work within the guidelines we are given.

I know the following to be true,

1. It is much easier to close something than to reopen it.
2. The process for planning to reopen is critical to the safety of our children, staff, and community
3. The quality of our plan for reopening will impact our success and ability to keep school open
4. School will look different for a while. There are many guidelines, protocols and procedures that must be place and followed.
5. The reopening of schools in Oregon is significant as it is the first time such a large group will come together since COVID19 began. We have about a half a million students in Oregon. We need to get this right in order to do all we can to keep them safe and provide the quality education they deserve.
6. The Oakridge community, students, parents, staff, and school board members are the best I have worked with. You are all appreciated and I would like to thank you for your tenacity as you hold our youth and their well being as the highest priority in all that we do.