



SUNSET RIDGE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

3215 S, Hillhurst Road, Ridgefield, Washington 98642

Phone (360) 619-1420 Fax (360) 619-1458

Principal: Todd Graves Assistant Principal: Stephanie Goad Secretary: Kim Babien

August 18, 2020

Dear Coyote Families,

I hope this welcome finds you doing well in health and social-emotional spirits. Over the course of the summer, a Ridgefield School District team of administrators and teachers, incorporating parent input from the spring, have developed a restart plan for schooling this fall. The result is, acknowledged, far from what we wish were possible. We all believe that our capacity to educate and support students is much greater on our campus than in a remote format. There are many limitations in our plan, but I do believe it represents marked improvements based on what we learned in the spring. Ridgefield Remote will be more robust, clear, and engaging than Continuity of Learning 1.0 (our distance learning program from the spring). We are greatly appreciative of all of the input and feedback families provided in the spring and summer, and invite you to continue to work with us to continuously improve the Sunset Ridge learning experience. As a staff, we will be focusing on creating opportunities for students to build classroom connections remotely while focusing on student growth.

The social-emotional health and well being of students and staff has been heavy in my thoughts. You will see dedicated time in your students' schedule to address this daily. We will also be focusing on this as a staff. The impacts of quarantine affect everyone differently. The staff at Sunset Ridge is committed to supporting all students and each other during this unprecedented time. I am also concerned about student learning and the impacts of distance learning. We are looking at ways to assess students and respond immediately to support growth and learning. Every day, students will have the opportunity to connect with their teacher for support or an extra challenge depending on their specific needs.

Sunset Ridge is a special place and we are committed to creating that experience for students even if we cannot do so in person. Our capacity to do this in a distance model will be limited but we are dedicated to the success of all our Coyote learners. We appreciate all of your support and the critical role you play in making this all happen. We know that working, parenting, and assisting kids with schooling is extremely taxing. Many of us are parents as well as educators and feel the same stress. Together, I am confident we can get through this period and make significant student learning gains. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us for assistance in supporting your child at home. Please see the pages that follow for important information on a variety of topics related to restarting school.

Sincerely,

Todd Graves

Principal

[A video message from Principal Graves](#)



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This year our general education classroom teacher assignments at Sunset Ridge are:

5th - Rachelle Radzi, Amanda Burgess, Kim O'Neal, Jericho Kaylor, Erik Mendenhall, Annie Pintler, Jeff Payne, Jessica McCombs, Kelly O'Boyle, James Stevens and Tammy Cresap

6th - Kippi Barbouletos, Randi Christopherson, Tammy Cresap, Anja Felton, Brianne Norby, Shannon Cosgrove, Cheryl Shaw, Morning Stalcup, Laurie Pritchard, Joe Thayer, and James Stevens

This year our specialized teacher assignments at Sunset Ridge are:

Art- Alan Adams

PE- Ed Bates

Library- Jill Guccini

Choir- Bobbe Whetsell

Band- Stephanie Bloom

Computer Science- Nam Nguyen

Special Education- Doug TenEyck, Alissa Beatson and Holly Bartlett

Counselor- Kayla Mitchell

Student Handbook:

Please read the student handbook, [Student Handbook](#)

DAILY STUDENT SCHEDULES

In our student schedule you will find five distinct pieces of the student learning experience:

Instructional Block(5th)/Rotation(6th): During part of this time teachers will be conducting live learning activities with students in real time (synchronous). Students can expect to see their teacher and classmates, and be led through a variety of routines, discussions, demonstrations, or other learning activities.

Student Support (this will occur during Instructional Block 1 & 2 for 5th grade): During this time students will be expected to pursue learning activities, and have direct teacher support available if needed, connected to the content recently taught. Teachers may invite students for planned meetings to support their progress during this time as well. Student need for support may vary.

Independent Learning (this will occur during Instructional Block 1 & 2 for 5th grade): Students will be expected to complete some of their work, assigned by teachers, on their own during this time.

Specialist Time (this will occur during Instructional Block 2 for 5th grade): As during normal times, students will be assigned to Specialist teachers. During this time, students will have lessons on Art, PE, Computer Science, Choir and Band. This will be a combination of asynchronous videos as well as real time (synchronous) support.



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Metacognitive Time: At the end of each day, we will ask students to reflect on their learning, work habits, and plan for future improvement.

Essential to making this plan successful is students and families committing to a daily routine that supports participation. We know this is not a simple process in many households, but establishing predictability is a key component of ensuring consistent participation. We are also aware that some students will be supervising younger siblings while trying to pursue their own studies. If they make a priority of showing up for Instructional Blocks(5th)/Rotations(6th) each day, they will be more successful in their independent studies at other parts of the day that are more flexible, enabling them to help their brothers and sisters. These Instructional Blocks(5th)/Rotations(6th) should be the priority.

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT SPECIALIST SCHEDULES

Student specialist schedules will be shared by classroom teachers and linked to Google Classroom. All students will have specials starting the 1st week of school.

6th grade students who filled out the elective survey in the spring will start elective specialists on day 1. Students who did not take the survey in the Spring will take it during the first week of school and start elective specialists during week 2.

5th grade students will be introduced to our three elective classes Computer Science, Choir and Band. Students will then rank their choices and be assigned to a class during the 3rd week of classes.

TECHNOLOGY AND LEARNING MATERIALS

Ridgefield School District has arranged student Chromebook distribution August 20-25. At this time, we will also be distributing student workbooks for English Language Arts and math. See the link below for Chromebook distribution details. Please note, you will need to complete an [agreement](#) prior to collecting your student's Chromebook.

<https://www.ridgefieldsd.org/article/286714?org=district>

CORE 4 TECHNOLOGY

The district has identified four technology tools as the basis for our distance learning:

- **Google Classroom-** Learning management system where assignments, announcements, and essential class information can be found
- **Google Meet-** Live (synchronous) streaming platform where students will meet with their teachers and classmates for instruction.
- **Screencastify-**Video (asynchronous) platform that allows teachers to record instruction, and make it available whenever a student is able to access it, giving it a flexible time-frame.
- **Google Drive-**Online file management system where students will store their work.



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SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Our school supply list has been updated for this year. Our website has both a [remote supply list](#) and our traditional in [person supply list](#).

GRADES

Sunset Ridge will return to use of our typical grading practices used prior to the spring closure. We will also be using skyward to report weekly student progress.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance will be taken each Instructional Blocks(5th)/Rotations(6th) in accordance with state guidelines. If there are any circumstances preventing your students' attendance for any days or instructional blocks(5th)/rotations(6th), you will need to report that to the school attendance office.

VISITING THE SCHOOL

We ask that, if at all possible, you conduct school transactions over the phone with school staff to limit building visitation. The school is currently closed to walk-in visitors. If you have business that requires an in-person meeting, please arrange an appointment with the person you need to meet with. If entering the school, you will be required to complete an attestation of your current health status, wear a mask, and follow distancing guidelines.