



Cove School Newsletter

Back To School: August 31

Following nearly a half of a calendar year without the sounds of kids in Cove School Hallways, the District is now mere days away from its planned reopening on August 31. Four of the five school districts are set to open doors to students over the next couple weeks while the remaining district, La Grande, has set its sights on a late September return to in person learning. School leadership is universally suffering from whiplash due to the constant changes in direction issued by the Oregon Department of Education. Across the state, educators are working harder than ever to develop systems for a safe return to school and refining systems of instruction to provide meaningful educational experiences for their students. Along the way, many have been tasked with doing the impossible and having it done yesterday. As Superintendent, I have felt this way quite often over the past few months but I am also guilty of tasking the seemingly impossible and as any assertive boss would—I prefer it be done yesterday!

One clear example of this is the directive and expectation that teachers start this year able to "flip a switch" to toggle between online and onsite teaching. While pondering this, I liken it to telling Delta Airline pilots to "flip a switch" and fly Chinook helicopters—and you have a day to make the change! Nonetheless, here I am telling our true experts of classroom pedagogy to become technology instructional delivery experts overnight without cohesive special training, internships, or clear procedures. Our teachers are being told to take a "crash course" in flying the online instructional "helicopter." Before you grab your parachute and jump into homeschool, you might want to return to your seats and experience the ride. No doubt a turbulent ride from time to time, Cove teachers are ready to fly the instructional online Chinook helicopter in the right direction and are prepared to flip that switch. Fortunately, for now we continue to plan the flight of the jet airliner of in-person instruction to depart for learning outcomes on August 31. If directed, our teachers will leave their airliners to take the stick of the Chinook helicopter. They will get our students to their destination of learning outcomes either way—it will just be much faster in the classroom airliner than in the online helicopter. All said, we simply have great teachers. ~ Earl Pettit

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Special points of interest:

- ☺ Reopening Plans
- ☺ Parents Reopening Roles
- ☺ How Sick is Too Sick?
- ☺ Teachers' Welcome Back
- ☺ "Teach's" Summer Saga

Virtual Back-To-School Night is set for the evening of August 27. This will be conducted via a Webinar format. See announcements via LiveFeed, Facebook, and Twitter for details, instructions and the link to attend.

*Virtual Back-To-School
August 27th*

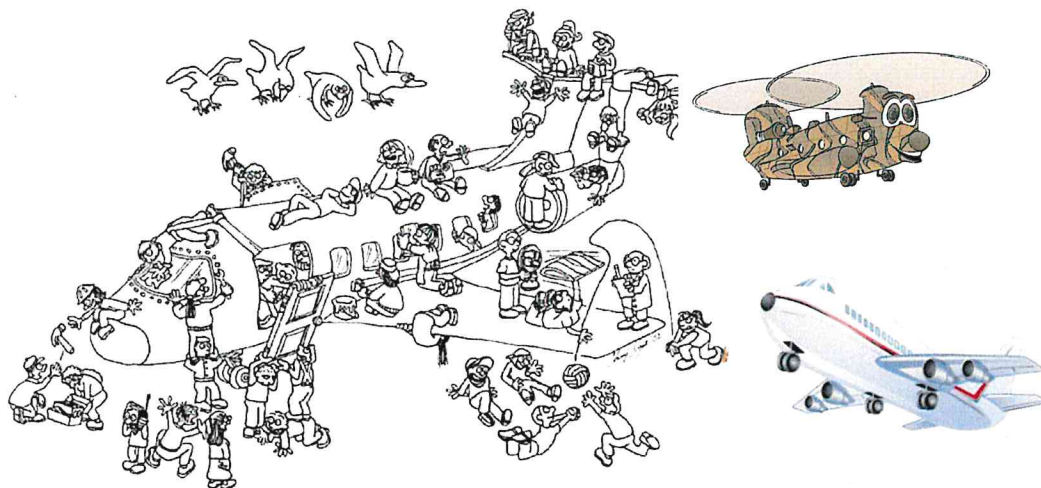
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District Business

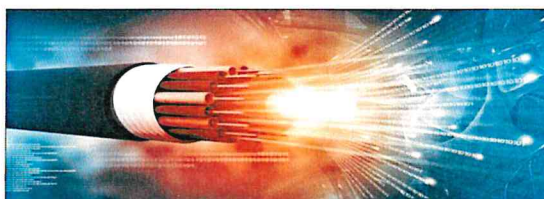


District Cancels Long-Term Planning Grant

As responsible stewards of all tax dollars, Cove School District recently cancelled the contract with *Design West Architects* and state grant for \$25,000 to complete a long range plan. With the project just started prior to the shut-down in March, the Oregon Department of Education accepted a proposal from the district to fund the few thousand dollars already expended while immediately reinstating eligibility for future years for the same grant. The effect was the return of \$21,000 of restricted money which could only be used for the purpose of long-range planning. With the project deadline of December 31, it became apparent that producing a meaningful product would be unlikely under current challenges which limit in-person collaboration with the public. Rather than proceeding with what would likely be an ineffective process to create a less-than-collaborative plan for the long-range future of the school, the District opted to try to restart this process in a year or two.

Continuing the Push for Fiber to Cove

Over the past several years, schools and communities in Union County have added fiber allowing for true high speed internet. Today, every school in Union County has access to high speed internet via fiber cables except Cove. This is not a new project and goal as the District has been pursuing fiber for several years. Today, with bids completed and vendors waiting for our funding stream, it looks to be a matter of a couple months from when we are able to say "GO." Cove School District has applied for forms of state funding provided under the CARES act, applied for E-rate funding, and additional matching grant funding made available in response to the pandemic. As of the time of this writing, we continue to wait for the various bureaucracies to approve or deny funding requests. Despite reports of requests far exceeding available funds, we remain hopeful for approval of this near \$1 million project to run fiber from the outskirts of La Grande and better serve our school and community.



Board's Decisive Action a Catalyst for Change

During a well-attended Special Meeting of the Cove School Board on July 28, the Board heard from constituents, included local political leadership, and debated the continuously evolving and more-restrictive mandates from state leadership and the Oregon Department of Education. The Board took clear and decisive action which had the effect of rejecting the statewide one-size-fits-all metrics for schools released earlier that same day. Their rejection was the first of many districts following suit over the next couple weeks with the result of the state being forced to adopt more location-based decision metrics which have the effect of allowing most smaller and rural schools, including Cove, to reopen for onsite learning this fall. Like most districts outside the Willamette Valley, Cove School District continues to advocate for maintaining some local control and this issue was reflective of that value. After all, Cove School belongs to Cove School District and ultimately the community of Cove. ~ Earl Pettit

SuperView



The past few months have brought to light some shortcomings in the education system in general but they have also revealed many significant strengths of Cove School. Because of a long-running community philosophy of fiscal conservatism and careful management of resources, Cove School District is in a strong position to weather the current and projected fiscal impact of the pandemic and the response to the pandemic. Cove School has also worked through the limited internet bandwidth and technology challenges to deliver limited instruction last spring and to prepare for a more comprehensive distance learning if it may be needed this fall. These are but a couple examples and there are many more.

As the leader of this District, the past few months have been long days and weekends of almost exclusively planning and meetings just to address the planning for reopening school. What has not been a focus for leadership is the area which has always been center for effective leadership of schools over my previous 21 years—instructional leadership. With the daily stress felt by me and the leadership team over the past months, the teachers of Cove School have risen to the challenge to get us back on track and ready to deliver effective instruction. It is our teachers who are creatively solving instructional delivery and curricular problems with limited assistance from leadership. It is the Cove School teachers and staff who are keeping focus on effective instruction when the administration is focused on the logistics of on site school during a declared pandemic.

On Monday, August 31, I intend to safely open Cove School for on-site instruction for the first time in nearly six months. Getting here to be among the first of Oregon's schools to reopen took work and effort beyond any that I experienced in more than 20 years in school leadership or seven years of Army leadership and I am confident that we are now up to the challenge of opening school safely with effective risk mitigation and response protocols.

Just as important to this effort, I am confident that our teachers have demonstrated their true expertise in preparation for instructional delivery and curriculum development—they sure have had little assistance from administration for this task of late. Like everyone associated with Cove School this year, our teachers are delivering on their commitment to provide a quality education model. Thank You Cove Instructional Staff—your efforts are noticed and appreciated beyond words. ~ Earl Pettit

Elementary Classroom News



Mrs. Thomas' 4th Grade



It's Christmas in August. That's right 4th grade, I have boxes full of new school supplies for all of you. They will be completely your own and are set up in your individual desk waiting for you. I cannot wait to put them to use upon your arrival. Merry Christmas, oh wait, I mean Happy 1st



Mr. Gustavson's 6th Grade

The 6th grade classroom is ready for you! I am looking forward to meeting you all and to help guide you through a monumental year of learning. In the first few weeks of school we will set goals, focus on what gives us strength and positivity, and build our foundation for an excellent year. Also, if you didn't know already, one of my favorite authors is Roald Dahl. He is quirky, funny and has an amazing knack for describing characters in a way that will create new levels of understanding. I can't wait to share! ~Mr. Gustavson

Mrs. Tucker's 5th Grade

Welcome back 5th graders! I am so excited for this school year as I know we will accomplish many great things together! This fall will be filled with reading, writing, math, grammar, social studies, science, and more. Also, for the 4th year in a row, I will be hosting Mrs. Tucker's 30 Book Challenge! I hope you are all ready to read, read, read! I can't wait to kick off an amazing year with all of you. ~ Mrs. Tucker

Mrs. Langford's 3rd Grade

I am super excited to start this school year with you in our classroom! It is all set-up and ready to go, it just needs you to make it complete. We have lots of really fun topics to learn about this year and I can't wait to share them with you. My favorite math topic to teach is multiplication, get ready for some flashcards! ~ Mrs. Langford

Mrs. Sheehy's 1st Grade

I am excited to kick off the school year with a creative group of 1st graders! This year has all sorts of fantastic things in store... We will expand our reading skills, learn all sorts of neat things in math, and get our hands dirty in science! With fall coming quickly, it won't be long at all before we get to press our own apple cider to enjoy in class and learn all about the life cycle of an apple! Here's to a GREAT year! ~ Ms. Sheehy

Mrs. Williams' 2nd Grade

Hi! I'm Mrs. Williams and I will be your 2nd-grade teacher this year. Believe it or not, this will be my 15th year teaching in Cove. Wowzers! That is a long time! I love to spend time in the mountains and on rivers with my family. I especially like riding my mountain bike with my dog Frankie, reading and cruising high lakes on my paddleboard. I am so excited school is starting and I can't wait to see you and hear about all your summer adventures. See you soon! ~ Mrs. Williams

Mrs. Wright's Kindergarten

Boy-oh-boy, it's time for kindergarten! I have 18 sweet children--15 boys!--starting their school journey at Cove Kindergarten this year. No worries, as the mom of three boys, I got this! I also have a couple student teachers this year--both from our Cove Community: Jill Pedrow and Melinda Hassinger. Yay for awesome student teachers to help us with our learning! (And to help me tie shoes!)

It can be scary to start school for the first time in a strange building with unknown teachers. No thank you! Instead, Cove Kindergartners get to come to a one-on-one classroom visit the week prior to get acquainted.

It's been said that all you really need to know you can learn in kindergarten. Here's a list from Robert Fulgham (and Mrs. Wright) so you can see what we will be learning this year:

- ◆ Share everything (except germs, please).
- ◆ Play fair (and play hard, everyday!).
- ◆ Don't hit people (or kick or pinch).
- ◆ Put things back (because your mom is not here to do it for you--haha, it's a joke, kinda).
- ◆ Clean up your own mess (and then help your neighbor).
- ◆ Don't take things that aren't yours (but you can ask nicely to look at it).
- ◆ Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody (on the inside or on the outside).
- ◆ Wash your hands before you eat (and after you eat, and ten other times during the day).
- ◆ (Please make sure your potty hits the water.) Flush (and wash your hands).
- ◆ Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you. (!!!!!!!!!!!)
- ◆ Learn some, think some, draw, paint, sing, and play--and work some.
- ◆ When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands (maybe not this year) and stick together (6 feet apart).
- ◆ Be aware of wonder.
- ◆ Remember the little seed in the styrofoam cup. The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why--but we are all like that.

All I really need
to know I learned in
kindergarten



It's going to be a great year! ~ Mrs. Wright



Classroom News: Jr./Sr. High School



Math: I am SOOO looking forward to seeing all my students in person again. I have been able to visit with some students & parents about their concerns for starting the new school year, but if you have any questions please feel free to contact me. I will be using the textbooks more this year to facilitate students who may not be able to attend and all homework will be posted on *Google Classroom* & students/parents will be able to access at any time. Please be sure to read the "Welcome Back" letter and review the syllabus, as well as putting log-in information somewhere for easy access. There will certainly be a few differences in the method of delivery but be assured that your students will have every opportunity to be successful and build their confidence with Math. ~ Mrs. Murchison

Social Studies: Welcome back Leopards! While I enjoyed my summer, I found that my two dogs do not provide much in the way of interesting conversation while hiking. I am excited to be back in the classroom and look forward to diving into all things Social Studies this year. It will be an exciting time with elections just around the corner giving us an opportunity to study government and history in action. I cannot wait for you all to get back so we can continue our journey together. ~ Mr. Gorham

Science: Times like these, times where the status quo is broken, is the time that innovation, reform, and growth take seed and root. I am excited to be a part of Cove School District as we approach and progress through the 2020-2021 school year! A new thing for me this year is my opportunity to branch out and teach more than just the sciences. I will be teaching Health and a zero-hour (before 1st period) Strength and Wellness Course. Both of these courses are areas of passion for me and I look forward to putting my passion and training to use, developing both mind and body. ~ Mr. Wiseman

Junior High-Mr. Hubbard: After an abrupt and incomplete closure of our school last spring I am excited by the prospect of returning to school in a more familiar (and effective) form. It is so pleasing to be back in my classroom. I am so looking forward to seeing students again. Our school leaders are intensely focused on what's best for the students and the community. After Mr. Pettit's address to returning staff members last week, I believe the school is prepared to meet and adapt to any new situation that may arise. It's time to move forward, and we will remain positive and optimistic about our future. We must continue to be rational, thoughtful, and resourceful. There's strength to be found within us when facing adversity. We must explore and embrace the opportunities created by this new situation. Let's make the most of it. ~ Mr. Hubbard

Junior High-Mr. Dressen: Well, we all made it through the final part of last year, but I cannot tell you how excited I am about returning to the classroom... to see their faces when they understand something, the silence when they don't. I did not realize how important these sorts of things were until I did not have them. It is going to be a great year here at Cove, and I am excited to be a part of it! ~ Erich Dressen

English/Drama/Extracurricular Theatre: I am excited about some curricular changes that I am adopting this year now that I have a better understanding of the needs of our students. Everything that I do is an effort to prepare them for life beyond high school, which involves critical thinking and communication. With a solid foundation in vocabulary being developed in grades 7/8, we will be transitioning into a vocabulary curriculum that pairs with a grammar curriculum to help promote a better understanding of the English language and how to develop into better writers.

College courses continue to be offered: WRI 121/122 for seniors, and COM 112/LIT 104 for juniors and seniors. COM and LIT are in yearly rotation, so this year, we will be offering COM 112 (public speaking) during second semester. These are dual credit courses, so students are earning both high school and college credit. WRI 121/122 is offered through articulation with OIT, and COM 112 is articulated through EOU.

Drama class will be starting off with the 11/12 cohort and hopefully adding in the 9/10 cohort not too far into the semester. The special topic this year will be stage makeup, which provides an opportunity to experiment with traditional applications as well as special effects! Students will be provided with their own makeup kits.



Because it's anybody's guess regarding social distancing, audience size, virtual, or in-person, the extracurricular theatre program will be producing an "Old Fashioned Radio Show" which can be performed in any manner required and will allow for participants to be socially distanced. I am looking forward to bringing some history into this program as well as paying homage to some of the classic radio programs that some of our community members might remember. Students will also have the challenge of creating sound effects! We plan to do a spring play as well. The title is TBA at this point. Auditions for the fall play will take place September 21 & 22 at 4:00 pm with callbacks September 23 at 4:00 pm in Dr. Farrell's room. Rehearsals will take place after school, and performances will be November 20, 21, & 22 at the Coe-Kerr Community Center (or online if need be). The spring play will audition in early February and will perform April 23, 24, & 25. ~ Dr. Farrell



A Vision of Arts



"If art is to nourish the roots of our culture, society must set the artist free to follow his vision wherever it takes him." John F. Kennedy

I would like to thank the school board and administration for the countless hours of hard work to make this year "a go" for Cove School. I have come to appreciate the culture in the small town of Cove during these difficult times. I believe the school can be a central hub in rural communities and the support from the leadership and local members can help raise a generation of young people that will become productive, creative and beneficial to society. I look forward to a time when we can all support these young people in all of their sports and extracurricular activities.

Of course, I don't think JFK was specifically talking about our children when he referred to the roots of our culture, nor was he aware that there would be a global pandemic in the year 2020. I do believe that the President recognized that things like the Arts move society and strengthen us. I trust, as our leaders open the door to reopening that our young people will gain vision and purpose once again. ~ Mr. McBride

Highlights Of Teach's Summer

We are back! It was nice that Cove had the parade even without the festival. I usually have some entry into three different parades that showcase something that was made in the shop here at Cove High School. I think that Cove was the only town that was gutsy enough to have a parade this year. I rode a drift trike that we made several years back. It has PVC pipe over the back tires to eliminate most of the traction, to allow the driver to throw the trike sideways into a drift. Holy Moley! With the fire department wetting down the road, it was like driving on ice. It was a blast trying to keep it going in the general desired direction! I talked my wife into driving the mini model A that we made last year. I've just got to say, it is pretty darn cool! This year I think we will make a Mini T-Bucket roadster.





Did anyone else have skunk problems this summer? One evening I heard a ruckus on the porch. I went out to investigate and found a small skunk but in full plumage! So I backed back into the house and waited for it to go, then went out and set a live trap. The next morning I had a not so happy skunk in the trap, trying to rip the tarp to shreds that I had under and up on one side of the trap. I then very carefully finished covering up the trap and put the whole thing in the back of my pickup. I dropped it off above Ladd Marsh and thought that I was done, not so. There was more than one. The next morning I came out to check and found the trap unsprung. I was about to go back in but I heard something in the trap! This time I had wrapped the tarp around the trap, so I wouldn't have to after the skunk was in it. I very quietly got down on my hands and knees and tried to spring the trap. About then the skunk came out the open end (less than 2 feet away). After a bit of a stare down (I blinked first), I slowly stood up. I thought that the skunk would amble off of the porch going away from me. No, it wanted to go past me! At first, I thought that if I stood my ground the skunk would stop and go the other way. I realized that I was sadly mistaken when it was parallel to me (6 inches away!) I know that by now you won't be surprised but I made yet another poor decision. I decided that it was one thing to be facing a skunk but a whole different thing to have the business end pointing at me from less than a foot away. (It might decide to leave me with a parting gift.) So I started backing up, hoping that I didn't trip and fall or step on the skunk. I won the race down the steps but he must have misted the ground because I had to burn my shoes, (another poor decision) but back to the first poor decision... Don't wrap the tarp around a live trap because even if the animal trips the trap (which it did), the door can't close because the linkage to let the door close needs about 8" of clearance (On the trap that I'm using). So far this summer I have relocated 9 skunks and counting. In case you're wondering, not one skunk sprayed when I let it out. We had a deal, if it didn't shoot, I wouldn't either. The best part of my summer was that my youngest son Nathan and his wife had their first baby.

Her name is Ellie and she weighed 9lbs and 3oz.—our 9th grandchild. I am a blessed man with a happy and healthy family and the skunks made me know how blessed I am too! Just think I had 9 skunks all loaded up, ready for delivery and I couldn't think of one person's house that I wanted to drop them off at! Oh, and by the way, dry cat food works great for baiting skunks. ~ Mr. Olmsted AKA Teach

Editor's Note:

Each fall I ask the staff to provide a "little blurb" to be included in the back to school newsletter and each year Russel Olmsted provides a "Reader's Digest" version of his summer events rather than a "short welcome back message". For most others they would be edited to align with the desired length and content but these stories make me laugh so much I simply can't edit them down. Don't believe me? Check out the previous years' fall issues of the newsletters on our website! Russel's summer Vacation Chapters may need to become a book in the future—just make each chapter from each fall newsletter submission. Teach has quite the summers! ~ Earl Pettit



Calendar Color Key	
	Winter/Spring Breaks
	Teacher Only Days
	Holidays
	School Day

Cove School

Cove School District 15

2020/2021 School Academic Calendar

Student Days: 147 (143 On Site)
Teacher Days: 155
Holidays: 6 (in addition to July 4)

August 2020

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Th	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Student Days: 5 Teacher Days: 7 Holidays: 0

September 2020

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Th	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Student Days: 17 Teacher Days: 17 Holidays: 1

October 2020

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Th	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Student Days: 17 Teacher Days: 20 Holidays: 0

November 2020

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Th	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Student Days: 15 Teacher Days: 15 Holidays: 1

December 2020

Sun	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fri	Sat
	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Student Days: 15 Teacher Days: 15 Holidays: 1

August

7/26-8/1... OSAA Moratorium Week
7/29-8/1... Union County Fair
17... OSAA Practice Start
18... Regular Board Meeting
TBD... Back To School Night
20-27... Teacher PD
31... First Day of On-Site School

September

7... Labor Day
15... Regular Board Meeting

October

9... State In-Service, Teacher PD
20... Regular Board Meeting
22... End of 1st Quarter (31)
23... Professional Development
30... Parent Conferences

November

11... Veteran's Day
16... OSAA Practice Start
17... Regular Board Meeting
25... Student Early Release
26... Thanksgiving

December

... Holiday Program
15... Regular Board Meeting
23... End of 2nd Qtr. (34) and Semester (65)
23... Student Early Release
24 - Jan 1... Christmas Break
25... Christmas Holiday

January

1... New Year's Day
4... Classes Resume
18... MLK Jr. Holiday
19... Regular Board Meeting

February

15... Presidents' Day
16... Regular Board Meeting

March

1... OSAA Practice Start
16... Regular Board Meeting
18... End of 3rd Quarter (42)
19... Professional Development
22-26... Spring Break
29... Classes Resume

April

2... Parent Conferences
20... Regular Board Meeting

May

6... May Day
13... Play Day
18... Regular Board Meeting
27... Student Early Release: Last Day of School
27... End of Qtr(36); Sem (78)
28... Professional Development
29... Graduation
31... Memorial Day Holiday

January 2021

Sun	Mo	Tu	W	Th	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Student Days: 15 Teacher Days: 15 Holidays: 1

February 2021

Sun	Mo	Tu	W	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27

Student Days: 15 Teacher Days: 15 Holidays: 1

March 2021

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Th	Fri	Sat
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Student Days: 15 Teacher Days: 15 Holidays: 0

April 2021

Sun	Mo	Tue	W	Th	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

Student Days: 17 Teacher Days: 18 Holidays: 0









May 2021

Sun	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2			

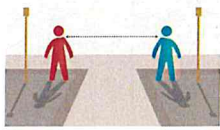
Student Days: 16 Teacher Days: 17 Holidays: 1

When Should I Keep My Student Home?

NOTE: These are school instructions, not medical advice. Please contact your doctor with health concerns.
*The list below tells the shortest time to stay home. Your student may need to stay home longer for some illnesses.

Student's Symptoms or Illness	Student May Return to School When*
 Fever: temperature by mouth greater than 100.4 degrees	No fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine.
 Skin rash or open sores	Rash is gone; sores are dry or can be completely covered by a bandage; or with orders from doctor to school nurse.
 New cough illness	In general, when symptom-free for 24 hours. If pertussis (whooping cough) is diagnosed, after taking 5-day course of prescribed antibiotics, or when cleared for return by local public health authority. If COVID-19 is diagnosed, with orders from local public health authority.
 Diarrhea: 3 loose or watery stools in one day OR newly not able to control bowel movements	Symptom-free for 48 hours.
 Vomiting	Symptom-free for 48 hours.
 Headache with stiff neck and fever; OR with recent head injury	Fever-free for 24 hours; symptom-free; or with orders from doctor to school nurse.
 Jaundice: (new) yellow color in eyes or skin	After orders from doctor or local public health authority to school nurse.
 Red eyes or eye discharge: yellow or brown drainage from eyes	Redness and discharge is gone OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Acting different without a reason: unusually sleepy or grumpy OR acting differently after a head injury	After return to normal behavior OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Major health event, like surgery OR an illness lasting 2 or more weeks	After orders from doctor to school nurse.
Student's health condition requires more care than school staff can safely provide	After measures are in place for student's safety.

To notify the school about your student's illness, please call 541-568-4424 or email kelsey.stitzel@covesd.org



COVID RISK MITIGATION TIPS

Face Covering (Mask) Care



How often should I clean my face mask or covering?

You should clean your mask after every wearing. This reduces the risk of spreading the coronavirus or other germs.

How do I clean my face mask?

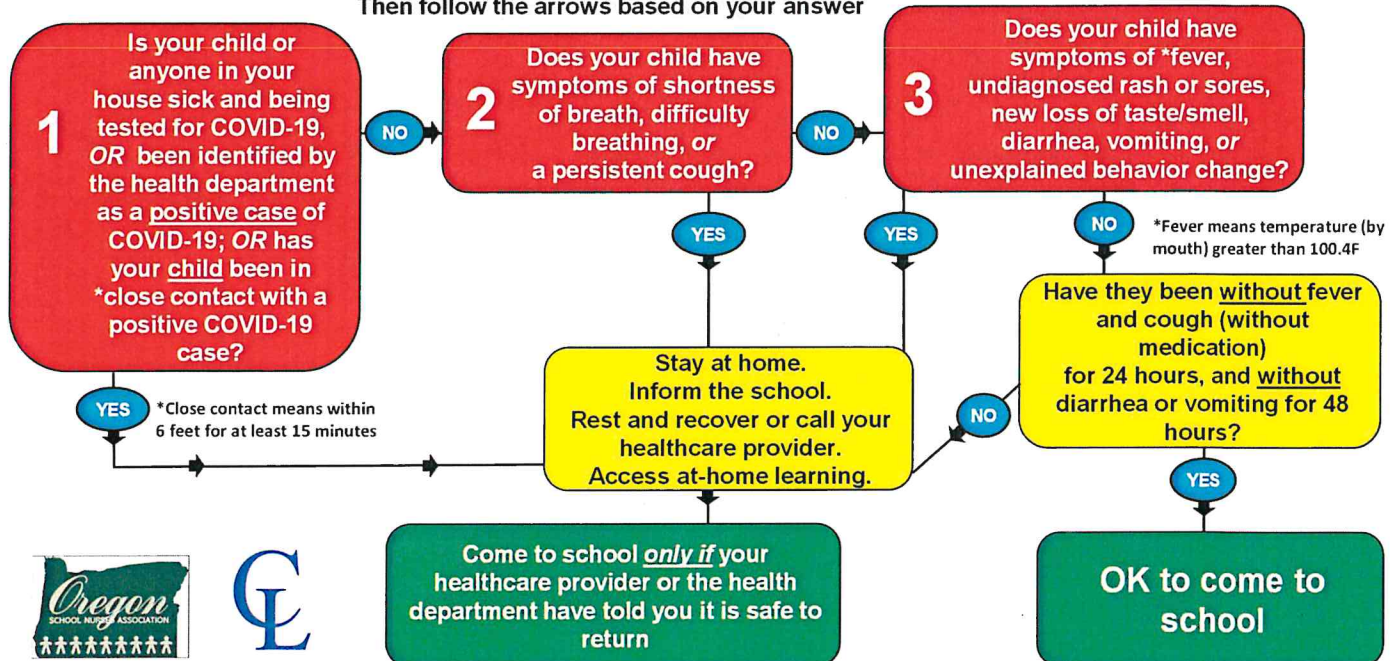
- ⇒ Bandannas, face scarves and masks made of fabric, such as cotton, can be washed in your regular laundry using hot water.
- ⇒ Disposable, blue surgical masks cannot be laundered or cleaned and should be thrown away when it is visibly soiled or damaged.
- ⇒ After laundering your fabric masks, tumble dry them in the dryer on a high setting.
- ⇒ You might consider using a non-scented laundry detergent if you are sensitive to perfumes so it is easier to wear the masks.
- ⇒ You can also hand wash your mask, using hot, soapy water. Scrub the mask for at least 20 seconds, and dry them on high heat in the dryer.
- ⇒ Store clean masks in a clean place when you are not using them.

Source: <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/coronavirus/coronavirus-how-to-care-for-your-face-mask>

Can my child go to school today?

Start with the 3 questions below

Then follow the arrows based on your answer



The New 60



High School Principal's Podium

EXCELLENT

Perspective:

While talking with a high school teacher this week I had a change of perspective.

We were discussing some of the changes for school this fall and the teacher mentioned what a great opportunity we had to try different activities with our students. It took me a moment to think it through but I realized she was right. Looking at the challenge from an optimistic viewpoint changed my perspective and outlook on the problem.

As school begins we will be working with student leaders to organize new activities and events for students this fall. All we needed was a different perspective to see the opportunities. ~ Mat Miles



A Message from Our Athletic/Activities Director

Life for the last six months has been very challenging, if not devastating, for many families and communities. It is easy to find words to describe how Covid 19 has made many of us feel -- frustrated, disappointed, angry, bored, overwhelmed, disguised, confused, helpless, afraid, restless, worried, depressed, or just numb. The list goes on and on. It would be easy to let our negative emotions overtake us during these challenging times, but as Doe Zantamata said, "It is only in our darkest hours that we may discover the true strength of the brilliant light within ourselves that can never, ever, be dimmed." As we prepare to reopen our school district on August 31st, I hope that the strength of the individuals who make our school and community so unique and special, will make this opening successful.

A team is a group of individuals who come together for a common goal. I have lived in this community for over 50 years, but I have never been a member of a team so important as the one I find myself on right now. Every member of this community is on this team. We have been committed with or without our consent. As we open our school district, we each need to do our part to insure that we can keep our entire community healthy and our schools open. This needs to be our goal. This fall, we have the opportunity to create programs unlike any in the past, to challenge our students to be open minded in their approach to new situations, and to challenge our community to work together as a team does, putting our team's goal before our personal needs. As a member of this team, we need to ensure that our students have happy, memorable, and successful experiences while keeping our entire community healthy.

This year, OSAA has created 4 seasons. Season one is from August 31st until December 27th. During this time, the sports/activities permitted will not be designated by the OSAA but rather will be at the discretion of the local school district, provided they are allowed by the Governor's Office, OHA, ODE, and the school adheres to the directives from those entities. You are probably wondering what that means. It means that we can offer our students activities as long as we follow all the parameters of our governing bodies. This is not an easy task, and like everything else, those plans could be changed rather quickly, but it is our intention to find safe ways to allow fall sports to be played. We are hoping to offer 5 on 5 flag football (tackle football is in season 3), volleyball, and cross country to our students during the first two months of school. After that time, we will look at other activities to consider through November and December. There is still a lot of work to be done before the first practice. We don't have all the answers to all the questions, and there are no guarantees during this worldwide pandemic, but know that we will be working hard to provide opportunities for our students to participate.

Please remember that:

- ◇ Together
- ◇ Everyone
- ◇ Achieves
- ◇ More



Best wishes to all of you for a happy and healthy 2020-2021 school year. ~ Mrs. McGilvray

Counselor's Corner:

Hopefully you were able to use this extended "break" to check out some colleges & start making decisions about what your next steps are.

There have been a lot of changes to the process of attending college, I will be sending out information to both the student and parent as it becomes available. Here are some things to start thinking about.... Senior year meeting - what to expect, how to plan, college, financial aid, graduation & much, much more.... We are still working out the details of where & how but it will be in mid-September. Look for more information soon.

ACT: Register by Aug 28 for the September Test - act.org

SAT: Register by Aug 26 for the September Test - collegeboard.com

PSAT for all Sophomores - Oct 14

ASVAB for all Juniors - Sept 17

Be sure to come see me or contact me about options for testing, help with paying for the test, planning for senior year. ~ Lisa Murchison

RESERVED
FOR
GUIDANCE
COUNSELOR

Student Supply List???

Why there is NONE at Cove.

1. Equity: This system promotes equitable access to educational opportunities regardless of socio-economic status.
2. Free Public Education: Requiring the purchase of materials only applicable to school is not consistent with the premise of a free and appropriate public education.
3. No Delays: Teachers teach on day one—no more waiting for school supplies to arrive from home.

Families are asked to provide a backpack, water bottle, and gym shoes—all items which have use outside school day for the student. We also have these requested items available upon request of a parent or student. ~ Earl Pettit

Cove School District 2020 Reopening Plan

(Summary of Student Day)

Morning Bus Pick-up:

- Student screening is first the responsibility of the parent. Parents will be informed of screening protocols and continuously reminded to screen their children for illness.
 - Bus arrives at stop, students enter and proceed to assigned seats starting in the back for those to be picked up first.
 - Bus driver completes visual screen and notifies the office of anyone who appears symptomatic. (Work with MidCo)
 - Provide a face covering/facemask to students who board bus without a face covering - face coverings or face shields are required while riding a school bus. Students refusing to wear face coverings on the bus may be denied transportation by the administration.
 - Bus driver wears a face covering when not actively operating the bus
 - Students load the back of the bus first to minimize walking by other students, 2 per seat IF family.
 - The first two seats on the bus are reserved for students experiencing symptoms.
 - The second seats on the bus are left empty for social distancing when needed.
- Send symptomatic students directly to the office.

School Arrival:

Bus-

- Buses unload one at time; arrival times shall be staggered. Updated route maps shall be developed.
- Unload front to back.
Coordinate with Mid-Columbia for sanitizing after each trip.

Parents-

- Parents are to be made aware of drop off and pick-up zones; and where their child is to enter.
- Staff shall not park on North side of cafeteria - Pick up/ Drop off only signs posted
- Parents will be asked to remain in vehicles, staff will manage students to vehicles
- Per current guidelines parents and guests are allowed inside the building only by appointment and following CDC safety guidelines.

School Entry:

- All open entries have a staff member completing visual checks.
- All staff members must wear KN95 face masks at entrances.
- Direct students to keep socially distanced and head directly to homerooms or cafeteria.
- Provide a KN95 mask to symptomatic students and send them directly to the office.
- Students must use hand sanitizer as they enter the building and face coverings are worn during "passing times"
- K-6 students enter through the elementary main entrance
- 7-8 students enter through the elementary main entrance or directly to classroom if served by direct outside door.
- 9-12 students enter through the HS main entrance or directly to classroom if served by direct outside door.
- After 8am all K-8 students must enter through the main elementary entrance; and 9-12 must enter through the main high school entrance.

There will be NO BEFORE SCHOOL RECESS/PLAYGROUND USE. Please plan to arrive to school after 7:30.

Classroom:

- Students will be assigned a homeroom (1st Period Class) and must go directly there upon entering the school.
- Desks and tables will be socially distanced according to current guidelines to the extent possible.
- With proper social distancing, students and staff may employ face covering breaks during instruction.
- Desks/tables and high-touch surfaces will be cleaned and sanitized between each cohort.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom- students will use the sanitizer or wash hands each time they enter and leave the classroom.
- Elementary will maintain morning and afternoon attendance logs; if a child leaves the teacher must inform the secretary for tracing purposes. MS/HS will take attendance each period to keep cohort logs.

Restrooms:

- Restrooms are limited entry:
Restrooms will be cleaned at least twice daily and sanitized at least once daily

Breakfast:

- K-6 students will eat in the cafeteria and proceed immediately after to their classrooms.
- 7-12 students will pick up their breakfast in the cafeteria and proceed to their 1st period classrooms.
- All students must wash hands or use sanitizer before eating.
Place food garbage (please tie the bag) in the halls for pick-up.

Recess/Lunch:

- JH Lunch Recess: If the weather permits students may be able to go outside. The campus is "closed" for JH students during lunch.
- HS Lunch Recess: students must stay in the cafeteria with their cohort, go outside, or proceed to the 5th period classroom. The campus is "Open" for 9-12 students but students must check out with secretary if leaving campus.
- K-6 students will enter/exit for recess/lunch from assigned doors.
- Students will wash/sanitize their hands before exiting and upon entering the building.
- K, 1-2, 3-4, and 5-6 will have separate lunches, recess times and equipment.
- Staff serving lunch will follow current CDC guidelines.
Personal student playground equipment (balls or toys) are temporarily not allowed.

School Departure:

- Bus routes will be adjusted to support cohorting students and maintaining: 1) 3 feet of distance between non-family members and 2) 6 feet of distance from drivers (except during loading, unloading, and assisting students).
- Parents picking up or dropping off students will remain in their vehicles and not congregate at the student exit point.
- Elementary parents will use the parking area in front of the cafeteria for student drop off / pick up.
There will be NO AFTER SCHOOL RECESS/PLAYGROUND USE. Please plan to pick up student promptly after school.

Notes about the reopening plan and protocols

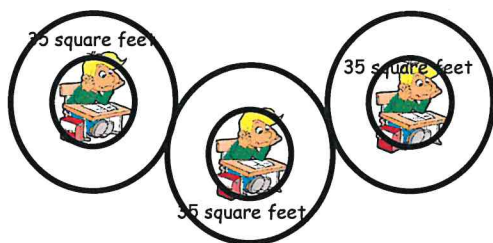
⇒ Administration personnel are the designated social distancing contacts. If a staff member or parent has concerns about a specific protocol/routine, or notices problems associated with proper social distancing that person will notify administration. Administration will log all concerns and document any corrective actions needed.

⇒ The plan and operation regarding COVID protocols and safeguards will be reviewed by a collaborative schoolwide team each Wednesday afternoon. Updates to the procedures and protocols will generally be made by that team to be effective the following Monday.

⇒ It is the hope of the school that restrictions in place specific to the pandemic may be systematically and gradually removed over the next few months but responses and adjustments are based upon local COVID metrics.








⇒ All parents and secondary students are encouraged to download the Cove Leopard APP (available from Google Play or the App Store through our website).

⇒ Detailed Operational Blueprint is available on our website



Stay healthy. Stay calm.

8 tips for managing your child's anxiety about COVID-19.

 Create a routine.	 Listen to your child and check in frequently.	 Look for signs of anxiety.	 Teach coping skills.
 Focus on controllable tasks like washing hands.	 Encourage positive thinking.	 Stay connected.	 Seek professional help if needed.

Get more tips and resources at childrens.com/covid19

children'shealth?

Cove School District 15
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Cove, OR 97824
541-568-4424

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This is the First quarterly newsletter for the 20-21 school year sent to all district households. For comments or suggestions, please contact Earl Pettit, Elementary Principal/Superintendent at 541-568-4424.

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How YOU can Help Cove School Reopen Safely

In a few days, Cove School will have learning on campus for the first time in 170 days. Being among the earliest Oregon school to reopen has been no simple task and your support during this transition will be critical to the success of a safe return to school. A broader summary of a student's day is available on pages 10-11 and a more detailed Reentry Blueprint has been developed collaboratively with public health authorities and is available on our website. Please see pages 10-11 for more detail but this simplified list to help get us off to a good start!

1. **DON'T SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL SICK!** A detailed criteria is available in the center of the this newsletter and a chart to guide you is on page 8
 2. **Provide an appropriate face covering for your child.** See page 8 for face covering care instructions. Face coverings will be required of all students and must be worn when social distancing and/or cohorting cannot be observed. Cove school has face coverings available if a child forgets, soils, or loses theirs.
 3. **Stay off the campus until further notice.** Parents are asked to use the drop-off/pick-up zone, remain in their cars as much as possible, and not visit the building without an appointment.
 4. **Drop Off/ Pick Up Children On Time.** Elementary student have no before or after school recess and parents are requested to drop their kids off after 7:30 and before 7:55 (breakfast is available during tis time). Parents are asked to promptly pick up their child after school—elementary is released at 3:30 while grades 7-12 is released at 3:40. Elementary pick-up drop-off is on Haefer in front of the new cafeteria. Temporarily there is **NO PARKING** in this zone during these times and it is a pick-up/drop-off zone only.
 5. **Check / Update Emergency Contacts.** In the event we must send a student home, it is imperative that we have a list of who to contact if the parent cannot be reached.
 6. **Communicate and Remain Supportive.** Being able to return to onsite learning is in itself no simple task. If you may feel some rules or procedures are a bit over the top, I ask your indulgence, patience, and support in helping us return to school knowing that we all want these added restrictions to be as temporary as possible. On the other hand, if you feel the actions to mitigate risk are inadequate or that we have missed something, please let me know so we may evaluate and respond appropriately to your concern. These are uncharted waters and the Board, Administration, and Staff of Cove School continue to chart a course based upon the information available synthesized with our community's desires and beliefs.
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