

Coronavirus: COVID-19 Response

MOST CURRENT UPDATE

District Update – April 8, 2020

Dear Pinehurst School District Community,

Today, Governor Kate Brown announced closing in-person classes for the rest of the school year. Governor Brown said, *“the best thing we can do for the health of our children, and for the thousands of educators across the state, is to give everyone certainty by announcing the decision today to close in-person classes for the remainder of the school year.”*

This means Pinehurst School will not reopen for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. Our teachers will continue to deliver a “Distance Learning” program for all Pinehurst students, which includes video conferencing, phone calls, teacher recorded videos, Google Classroom, online resources and at-home work packets, through June 5, 2020. The extended school closure includes the Pinehurst School Gym, which will remain closed until further notice.

The “Distance Learning for All” guidance is Oregon’s response to the COVID-19 challenge. The key elements of Distance Learning for All are as follows:

- Every student regularly connects with their teacher(s).
- Teachers and students prioritize time together to focus on the most important or relevant learning.
- Teachers, families, and caregivers work as a team, anchored in partnership. Together, teachers and families co-facilitate learning, design consistent routines, and establish the learning environment.
- Teachers continue to monitor, report and record each student’s progress towards learning goals and standards, encouraging critical problem solving, collaboration, communication and creativity.
- Schools provide multiple, flexible opportunities -- for our high school students in particular – to earn credit on their pathway to graduation.

As a foundation for successful “Distance Learning for All” our students, our schools have a critical responsibility to:

- Continue to focus on student belonging, care, connection, well-being and mental and social-emotional health.
- Actively engage and nurture relationships with students, families, and community.
- Center equity in all outreach and communication efforts with parents and caregivers.
- Encourage, support and provide opportunities for active collaboration and communication between school leaders, teachers and all school staff.

We are pleased to report that Pinehurst School is doing a remarkable job delivering remote instruction and is ahead of the curve in terms of timely response to the changes. Feedback so far from parents and students has been appreciative and positive. Our full staff remains employed and our students engaged. Nothing can replace the in-person schooling experience, and we should not expect that remote learning can replicate the traditional school day. As parents, caregivers and teachers, we need to give ourselves grace and understanding as we navigate these new waters together.

We will continue to provide updates on COVID-19 as it relates to our community. To read about Governor Kate Brown’s news release, including guidance for graduating seniors, click [here](#).

Thank you for working with us as a community to meet this challenge.

Sincerely,

Holly Amann

District Administrator
Pinehurst School