

April 30, 2020

Dear Alsea Families, Staff, and Board Members,

I wanted to reach out and provide the new guidance update handed down from the Department of Education. The guidance concerns the "Reopening" of the State Economy and how Schools fit into the plan. I have attached a slide presentation document that was put together by the Governor's Staff. It goes into extensive detail on the reopening process and I encourage you to take a look at it.

OVERVIEW: The plan consists of three phases:

Phase 1: is to begin May 4th and allows for some businesses such as barbers, hair salons, Dental Practices, and Elective Medical Procedures to open if they implement strict social distancing guidelines/measures and limit groups of people to 10 or less.

We are told that we must remain in Phase 1 until 14 days pass without an increase in COVID cases upon which we will move to Phase 2.

Phase 2: ** Gatherings increase to 50, non-essential travel can resume, **schools and gyms can open under physical distancing**

Phase 3: ** Mass gatherings size increases, worksites have unrestricted staffing, visitors to nursing homes allowed, restaurants and bars can have more seating

***These phases will be met on a County-by-County basis so some Oregon Counties may be reach Phase 3 before others:

Rumor Control: I have had a fair number of people approach me worried that the school will not be able to open in the fall, or worse, will have to close due to a lack of funding.

1. Fall Opening: All Benton County Public Schools will be open in the fall **IF Phase 2 has been reached**. Please continue to Social Distance and take protective precautions as things slowly open up. This way we can all do our part to see to it Schools are open on time in the fall.

2. Closure due to funding cuts???: The Alsea School District is in a good position to weather the coming financial challenges created by the COVID Crisis. This preparedness is a direct result of our engaged and responsible School Board of Directors, as well as the collective actions of our staff to ensure a strong fiscal position from year to year. THE FUTURE OF THE ALSEA SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTINUES TO BE BRIGHT!!! I look forward to many more years of happy student faces being served in our little school!

Summary: The strength and resolve of our school and community have been tested by this Pandemic, and we have been found to be up to the challenge! As of today, we are one of the very few school districts to be able to confirm that 100% of our students and families have been reached and are receiving direct school to home support! Go Wolverines!!!

Our Teaching and Classified Staff are to be commended for their tireless dedication and willingness to role with change. It is truly an honor to be leading such an awesome crew of people!

Please take time to look at the attached slide show and I look forward to seeing everyone in person this fall. If you have any questions or need more information, please respond directly to this email.

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