

July 16, 2020

Dear Parents, Community and Staff,

I wanted to communicate a change to our August start date for the 2020-2021 school year. Originally, we planned to start the school year on August 17th, but due to a series of logistical circumstances our starting date will be delayed one week.

The new starting date for the first day of School will be Monday, August 24th, 2020. I apologize for any confusion this may cause.

Speaking of confusion, many parents have inquired as to what kind of operating model we will be under on the 24th. Unlike many of our neighboring districts we are blessed to be able to operate on a full school schedule for grades K-12.

This means we will be having school like normal with a series of COVID based safety protocols/procedures in place. More information will be coming soon on the details of the Alsea Reopening Plan. A couple of preview details are as follows:

We will be taking temperatures of all students, staff, and visitors as they enter the building, as well as all staff will be using appropriate personal protective equipment and every classroom will have both hand washing and/or sanitizing stations. The reopening plan is very comprehensive and hopefully user friendly. Now on to the most commonly asked question.

The most commonly asked question is: "Will students be required to wear MASKS?" The Alsea School District will not be requiring students to wear masks, however, we will make them available to any student who wants or needs one. Students may be encouraged, but not required, to wear a mask during passing times and during specific activities as needed to meet the recommendations of the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) when adequate distancing is not as likely.

Naturally, we are doing everything in our power to keep students and staff safe while allowing school to run as normally as possible under the current circumstances. I hope this update helps all our students and families with their planning for this fall.

We will also be offering comprehensive distance learning online options for students K-12 if you prefer that delivery model for your student(s).

Let us know if you have any questions/requests. If you wish, feel free to respond directly to this email. A copy of the revised School Calendar is attached. We are very excited about the upcoming school year, as we will be welcoming many new faces to our school community.

Sincerely,

Marc Thielman
Alsea Superintendent/K-12 Principal
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