

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J

www.vernonia.k12.or.us



May 14, 2021

Dear Parents,

It has been quite a year. Thank you all for your patience, flexibility and support as we continue to navigate our way through these trying times. There have been many decisions to make this year that have never been a part of our work with teaching children, but we have worked together, and tried to consider all perspectives, as we have arrived at these decisions.

Our decision to move Mist Grade School to a Kindergarten-2nd grade only school, however, was not made with the same inclusive process as past decisions, and this mistake was mine. Because this decision was made without sufficient opportunity to provide input, we will start over, and go through the process correctly. The process is as follows:

- Parents interested in having their K-5th Grade child attend Mist Grade School can fill out the attached form requesting placement at Mist. This request is not a guarantee that your child will be placed at Mist, but will allow the District to determine how many students are interested in accessing this option. While requests to attend Mist Grade School will be accepted through August 6, we want anyone interested in sending their student to Mist to turn in the attached form by Monday, May 24th.
- There will be at least two more virtual input meetings for families to ask questions and provide input on the grade configurations and options available at Mist.
 - The first meeting will be on Tuesday, May 26 from 6-7 p.m. This will be an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.
 - The second meeting will be on Thursday, June 3 from 6-7 p.m. This meeting will provide the District's plan on how Mist Grade School will move forward. There will be some time for questions and input.
 - If further meetings are necessary in this decision-making process, they will be scheduled after meeting two.

****These meetings will be held virtually, with the access code available on the District website.****

Collecting official requests for placement at Mist for the 2021-22 school year, and gathering input at the next parent meeting should provide the District the information needed to determine Mist's grade configuration and staffing levels for next year.

Again my sincere apologies for reading the enrollment numbers and making such an important decision with no opportunity for you to provide input. The opportunity is now there, and I hope you have some grace for me as I continue to work to make the best decisions possible for your students and our community. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Aaron Miller
Superintendent

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