

# VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J

www.vernonia.k12.or.us



March 20, 2020

Dear Parents,

First off, thank you so much for your patience and understanding as we navigate this unique situation of a State-mandated closure of our schools! I hope this letter finds you healthy and well, and that you are finding ways to take care of yourself and your family, as we all adjust to social distancing.

As much as we need to keep our distance and stay apart from each other, now is the time when we must also pull together, to stay united as a community, weather this storm, and come out the other side stronger than ever.

We have done this before. We can do it again! Take care of yourselves as much as you can, and let us know if there is anything we might be able to do to help.

As for school..... here are the latest highlights:

- The safety and well-being of our students and staff continue to be at the heart of all our decisions. Our most sincere thoughts go out to all of you! We miss you and want you to return as soon as you are able! If you have any need for social, emotional support for your child, please contact the District Office so we can connect you to the proper support.
- The District will continue to work to keep you informed with accurate and timely updates. Updates on this site will occur at least every Tuesday and Friday, between now and April 29, our scheduled return date.
- The VSD will meet ALL provisions of the Governor's School Closure Order, which includes providing:
  - supplemental and educational learning supports for our students.
  - child care services as directed by the State for designated work classes.
  - school meals for the children in our community.
  - a plan for the operation of our essential services and delivery of non-educational services, including food services, to students and families.
  - Continued regular pay for all our employees.
- Last week we served lots of children a free lunch and breakfast. About 170 kids came by each of the last three days of the week. 1,374 meals were served in the first week alone!
- Official guidance from the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) on distance learning, and how to meet educational requirements for students during this closure is not due to be shared with local districts until early next week. I hope to have at least some information for you on this subject in next Tuesday's update.
  - Until that guidance comes in I can't provide accurate answers to the many questions you have regarding schoolwork and graduation.
  - I can assure you that once that guidance comes in, we will be developing plans to meet the needs of our students to the best of our abilities.
  - Seniors and Graduation: Part of the guidance from ODE will include information on the questions, and the answers, regarding the impacts faced by students ready to graduate this spring. As a district we have our data ready for all of our seniors, so we can evaluate the impacts of this guidance on each individual student as soon as it is received. We will do whatever is needed to support the graduation of our senior students!

Thank you, and have a nice evening! Aaron Miller, Superintendent

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