



March 31, 2020

Dear Parents,

Hello. I hope this update finds you safe and well!

Please accept my most sincere thanks for your patience and understanding as we work to meet changing educational guidelines from the State. Our staff is missing your children and helping them learn. We know these are tough times for everyone and we are working hard to be part of the solution by staying in touch with our students and families and by developing some normalcy with regular school routines and activities, even though we are asking you to do them at home due to this health emergency.

Here is the latest update on the State-mandated school closure:

- Official guidance from the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) on distance learning, and how to meet educational requirements for students during this closure finally came to districts late last night.
 - ODE changed its mandate for districts to provide “Distance Learning for All” rather than the previously planned focus on meeting more basic “Supplemental Education” requirements.
 - The document can be found on the ODE website. Here is the link to the latest guidance we will be working under, <https://www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/standards/Pages/Distance-Learning-for-all.aspx>
 - Having just received the guidance, it will take some time for the VSD to work through all aspects of the new directive, and develop final plans for how “Distance Learning for All” will be implemented in Vernonia.
 - Because of this change, the VSD’s Supplemental Plan due out next week, will now be officially in place, as directed by the State, on April 13.
 - On-line learning resources are already on the District website and available for use. More of these materials will be added daily. While they are available for use, they will not be directly supported by our teaching staff until the official rollout of Vernonia’s “Distance Learning for All” on April 13.

Don’t forget! “Parent Survey – PLEASE COMPLETE it.” – If you haven’t yet done so, please click the link and complete the parent survey so we can best serve you in this time of need.

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. 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.

Thank you again for your patience through all of this! More on Friday. Take care and be well!

Aaron Miller, Superintendent