

March 12, 2020  
11:00 a.m. Update

RE: School events, gatherings, field trips suspended - UPDATE

Greetings Bend-La Pine Schools Families,

As promised, we are providing updated information following Governor Kate Brown's press conference where she announced new orders regarding group gatherings and social distancing for schools.

We remain committed to keeping our schools safe. In accordance with this new guidance and in order to minimize potential opportunities for the virus to spread, we will begin suspending events that bring large groups of students, adults, and community members together.

**Suspension of non-essential school-based activities begins immediately, effective Thursday, March 12, and will remain in effect for 30-days, which is through the end of the day on April 8.**

- This includes a 30-day suspension of all school-based assemblies and events, off-campus field trips, and out-of-state travel.
- This includes a 30-day suspension of all athletic and activity competitions. District sponsored athletic and activity practices will be able to continue at this time, as scheduled.
- All facility usage by outside groups is suspended for the next 30-days.
- Bend Park and Recreation's after school Kids Inc/Enrichment Wednesday programs in the Bend area and La Pine Park and Recreation District's HUB and The Hang Out after school programs will continue as scheduled.

We realize that these decisions will impact every school community, and we know that many of the events, student performances and other gatherings that we are suspending are ones that schools, students and families look forward to all year long. Suspending these events is consistent with guidance from health authorities, and we believe it is a prudent and responsible step to take at this time. We will be working with trip planners, event organizers and others who are responsible for the affected activities.

You can continue to find information about coronavirus COVID-19, resources and links to public health agencies by visiting [www.bend.k12.or.us/COVID-19](http://www.bend.k12.or.us/COVID-19).

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding during this challenging time. We will continue to rely on the guidance of Oregon public health authorities, the Department of Education, and the Office of the Governor.

Best,

Shay Mikalson  
Superintendent