

Dear Bend-La Pine Schools Team,

This is certainly a week that I will always remember. While I would never want to repeat the heart-dropping experience of hearing about a roof collapse at one of our schools, I am grateful for what this experience showed me about the mettle of our staff. This week stretched us to the edge, but we stayed strong, united and whole.

I am awed by our maintenance and custodial crews who shouldered the hard work of removing millions of pounds of snow from our roofs. We also saw dozens of staff members volunteer to shovel sandbags to protect our schools during the coming snow melt. Your efforts are helping us to reopen schools this week. We could not do this without you! See more information below about tomorrow's rolling opening start to school and an FAQ.

We know many of our staff members have questions about payroll and Human Resources. Please give us the remainder of the week as we work hard to answer these questions and know that we'll be following up to provide clarity early next week.

Like all of you, I am ready to return to the work that we do best, the work that matters most: teaching students.

Thank you for all that you do.

Best,

Shay Mikalson, Superintendent