

March 12, 2020
10:00 p.m. Update

Bend-La Pine Schools Families,

We appreciate your patience as we have navigated this complicated COVID-19 situation together for the last few weeks. The district has been following guidance from Governor Brown and the Oregon Health Authority to keep our schools open as long as possible, yet, working behind the scenes to plan for a possible closure of our schools due to COVID-19.

This evening, Governor Brown ordered that all Oregon K-12 schools close beginning Monday, March 16 and concluding Tuesday, March 31.

At this time, students are expected to return to school on **Wednesday, April 1.**

We are supportive of these measures to do what we can to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

We want to reiterate that there are **no confirmed cases of COVID-19 among Bend-La Pine Schools' students or staff at this time.**

What This Means for Students

Friday, March 13, will be a regular school day. This will allow students to collect learning materials that they might need and take home any personal items they might want while schools are closed. Our educators will also be able to talk with students and to help prepare them for this closure. Students are encouraged to take district issued iPads home with them for the closure period.

Monday, March 23 — Friday, March 27 is Bend-La Pine Schools Spring Break.

All students should plan to **return to school on Wednesday, April 1.**

All athletics and activities will be canceled during the closure period.

I cannot thank each and every one of you enough for your support during these quickly changing times. Please accept my sincere thanks for your patience and support as this situation has continued to evolve in Oregon and across the country. These measures are intended to help protect the most vulnerable populations we serve and to safeguard students and employees as much as possible.

We will continue to provide you updates as new information becomes available.

Best,

Shay Mikalson, Superintendent
Bend-La Pine Schools