

March 17, 2020

Students and Parents of Banks School District,

We just received word that Governor Brown has issued an executive order effective immediately closing schools until April 28th. Here is a summary list of what the order states:

- Schools are to remain closed through Tuesday, April 28, 2020.
- Districts are to provide learning supports and supplemental services to students and families during the closure period, including meals and child care. This includes the delivery of food assistance and offering child care for essential health care professionals and first responders.
- School districts may call on public school educators and employees to deliver limited learning and support services.
- Each district will pay all their regular employees during the closure.
- The Oregon Department of Education, Oregon Health Authority, and Department of Human Services are directed to support public schools in the continuity of mental health services.

“I do not take the decision to extend school closures lightly,” said Governor Brown. “This will have real impacts on Oregon’s students, parents, and educators. But we must act now to flatten the curve and slow the rate of COVID-19 transmission in Oregon, otherwise we face a higher strain on our medical system and greater loss of life to this disease.”

Over the next few days we will be working through the details of what this means for each of us. We have started work on remote learning and supplemental supports for students. This was not known to the superintendents until just a short time ago.

I know there are a lot of questions and concerns out there. As we navigate this together, we need to stay healthy and safe and continue to work together to serve our students in the Banks School District. We will update you with information as we work through this.

Sincerely,

Jeff Leo

Superintendent