

March 11, 2020

Students, Parents, Families, and Community Members of Banks,

Your health and safety is our number one priority, and we know you want the latest information concerning our response to COVID-19.

Following guidance from our statewide public health authorities, we continue to have school daily. As we approach spring break, we also want to share information about our school events.

Here's what you should know:

- At this time, there is no public health recommendation out of the Portland metro region or Washington County to cancel or postpone large gatherings or special events.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [recommends](#) older adults and people who have serious chronic medical conditions, like heart disease, lung disease and/or diabetes, stay home as much as possible and avoid gatherings and crowds.
- If you are sick with flu-like symptoms, we ask that you not attend any school events.

For those of you who are well and choose to attend, help us prevent the spread of illness:

- At our upcoming events, we can all shift our culture of touching and forgo handshakes. We won't get offended.
- Wash your hands often with warm water and soap.
- Refrain from touching your face (eyes, nose and mouth).
- Cover your mouth with a tissue, sleeve, or elbow (not hands) when you cough or sneeze.

We feel very confident that our custodial staff is doing their part to protect our students and guests. Here are some of the steps the Banks School District is taking:

- We have focused our cleaning on high traffic areas.
- We are reviewing how to prevent the spread of illness with our students and staff daily.
- We are reviewing OHA and Washington County Health recommendations daily.

I want to reiterate that the health and safety of our students, staff, parents, and community is critically important to us. Public health is everyone's responsibility. Thank you for your help in keeping our community healthy while we continue to support student success.

Respectfully,

Jeff Leo
Superintendent