

January 28, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It has been a long road of on-line learning and difficult challenges over the past year. I appreciate your patience and understanding as we have worked through this school year. I know our students have experienced different levels of success and we all have experienced different levels of frustration. It seems like every week something new was being announced and changes prevented us from attending school in-person.

It is with great excitement that I believe we have come to the crossroads of this difficult year. I announced at our January 11th board meeting that we would be moving forward without vaccinations of our staff and start planning for an end of February, first of March return to a half-hybrid. At that current time, the information I had around vaccination availability was not in our favor. However, the following day, the Governor announced that educators had been moved up the priority list. That has become a reality over the past week. With our staff having the opportunity to be vaccinated in the coming weeks, we are now ready to move forward with our plans of returning to in-person learning near the timeline shared at the last board meeting. There are still safety protocols and guidance that we still need to follow, so we will not get back to “normal”. However, we are planning a full hybrid after spring break with some half-days prior to spring break. Families will still have the option to continue with online learning only.

Here is our roll out plan:

We will be moving forward with a 5 day a week, full day hybrid model for planning. Group A — Monday, Wednesday / Group B — Tuesday, Thursday, alternating Fridays for the A / B groups. There will also be an option to continue in CDL until the end of the school year. Specific plans for each school will be worked on in the coming weeks. I am including a detailed description of each plan at the K-8 and 9-12 level.

- March 1st — All staff on-site work Monday through Friday
- March 8th — K-2 begins
- March 15th — 3-5 begins
- March 8th — 19th — MS and HS will have opportunity to conduct orientation days for grades 6-12
- March 8th — 19th — School days will be 9:10 to 11:45 (half-days to start to review procedures and protocols with students and to make any adjustments to our safety protocols if needed.
- March 29th — We will begin full-day hybrid for all grades K-12. 9:10 to 2:15. We are still determining school day hours.
- LIPI will continue until spring break, especially at MS/HS
- LIPI will end at the elementary on February 26th to prepare cafeteria, gym, hallways, entrances, spaces for lunch, etc.

As always, I have to say that this is a tentative plan and the situation is fluid. I do not expect any major changes, but there are always possibilities of changes.

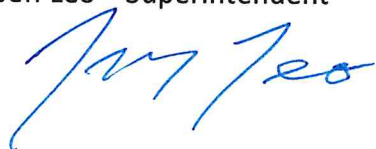
Virtual conferences are next Monday through Wednesday.

During the conferences, teachers will connect with families, share student progress, inquire about needs of student/family, and gather information on Hybrid/CDL planning. During that conference, we need to get an accurate count on students who will return to in-person learning or remain in CDL. At that conference, we are asking parents to have a yes or no answer ready. We are hoping with the information contained in this email will help guide your decision. If you have any questions between now and Monday, please contact your child's administrator. They will be able to answer questions with more specific details. In order to plan effectively, **if you choose for your child to remain in the CDL, they will remain in CDL the remainder of the year.** If you choose the in-person option, you will have the option to move back to CDL. Unfortunately with all of the social distancing and safety protocols, there are requirements that limit number of students in a classroom. Moving back and forth from CDL to in-person is difficult, if not impossible to navigate and maintain safety protocols and social distancing in rooms.

I appreciate your help with all of this. I appreciate your patience and understanding and the staff looks forward to meeting with you all next week.

Be well,

Jeff Leo – Superintendent



Banks School District Educational Options Draft 2021	
K-8 Comprehensive Distance Learning Model	K-8 Hybrid Model
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Remote/distance learning (learning from home) ● Students will access synchronous (live Zoom) and asynchronous learning ● Daily schedules/ teachers/ sessions TBA ● <i>Anticipate changes to teachers (student may not remain with teacher they currently have) and daily synchronous sessions/schedules</i> ● Once you choose CDL, your student will remain in CDL for the rest of year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Two or three days a week in person learning sessions (at school, in classroom). ● Two or three days a week asynchronous remote/distance learning ● Sessions may be between 4-5 hours ● Safety protocols in place including masks required, limited movement in the building, and physical space/distance requirements ● Students will be in limited contact small cohorts, including lunch, as well as recess at the elementary school ● Potential for pivoting between in-person and remote learning for up to 2 weeks at a time if a positive COVID-19 case is introduced to the cohort ● There may or may not be synchronous (live Zoom) opportunities available on the three remote days ● Daily schedules/ teachers/ sessions TBA ● <i>Anticipate changes to teachers (student may not remain with teacher they currently have) and synchronous virtual sessions</i>

Ready Schools Safe Learners Guidance :

https://www.oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/healthsafety/Documents/Ready%20Schools%20Safe%20Learners%202020-21%20Guidance.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

**Banks School District Educational Options
Draft 2021**

9-12 CDL Model	9-12 Hybrid Model
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Full-time remote/distance learning (learning online from home). ● Still enrolled as a student at Banks High School, but will not attend classes at the high school. ● Will not be the same as CDL experience in the first two quarters of the 2020-21 school year. ● Curriculum and lessons will be different than students opting for in-person. ● Online classes will be from Acellus or Edmentum, two video-based learning platforms. ● A BHS staff member will monitor student progress, but not live lessons with a BHS teacher. ● Students will have the opportunity to work at their own pace, self-guided modules and lessons. ● Students will be enrolled in four classes similar to in-person. ● Different course offerings than in-person, students can select from a course catalogue a variety of courses for high school credit in core classes and electives. ● There are fewer electives available. ● Classes can be completed at students pace, but need to be completed by the end of the grading period. ● Daily schedules/ teachers/ sessions TBA ● To maintain stable cohorts, we cannot allow students to transition from CDL/Online option to in-person hybrid during a grading period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Two or three days a week in person learning sessions (at school, in classroom). ● Two or three days a week asynchronous remote/distance learning ● Half of the students in the high school will be assigned to Group A, the other half will be assigned to Group B. The two groups will attend on alternating days. ● Safety protocols will be in place including: masks required, sanitizing and cleaning protocols, limited movement in the building, and physical space/distance requirements ● Students will be in cohorts, will not come into contact with more than 100 students at school ● Potential for transition from in-person to remote learning for up to 10-14 days if a positive COVID-19 case in cohort. ● Students will have work and activities to complete on their off-days where other cohort group are attending in person. ● Daily bell schedules are still TBD, but students will attend four classes in person. ● Master schedule and classes offered will remain in place. ● Can opt-out and choose to transition to CDL/Online option.