



COQUILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT #8

1366 N. Gould Street, Coquille, OR 97423

Phone: 541-396-2181

Fax: 541-396-5015

Good morning everyone,

Let me start by saying – this is a very fluid situation and things are changing rapidly. This is what we currently know:

Late last night (March 12, 2020) Governor Brown ordered all public schools in Oregon to be closed between March 16 and March 31. The Governor's decision was not an easy one, and she did not make it lightly, but it was, in her mind, a necessary one in order to slow the spread of the Coronavirus in the state. Oregon now joins states like Michigan, New Mexico, Ohio, and Washington in closing schools for a significant period of time to slow the rate of infection.

Although our schools will be closed we still have some work that will need to be done over the course of the closure: the governor has directed each district to create a food service plan that provides at least two meals per day to our students. We will also need to spend the allotted time deep cleaning our buildings, and we will still need to run business services. So during this crisis we will have employees deemed essential personnel and they will remain working. Your immediate supervisor will let you know your work schedule.

*There is an area that I am seeking more clarification on and that is our daycare program. The following is from the governor's message: **The Early Learning Division (ELD) will support child care programs and will work to identify resources to support child care needs for our most vulnerable families, as well as health care professionals and first responders.*** As I learn more from ODE and the ELD. I will get that information out to our staff and families.

This is uncharted water for the state of Oregon and I would imagine that there are many thoughts running through your mind. Some of you are very concerned, some of you may think this is a hoax, some of you are relieved that the governor has made this decision, some of you have already skipped ahead to June and are wondering if we will have to make up the days? I cannot yet speak to what will happen much past March 27, but rest assured we will be sending full paychecks out for March on time. It is important to mention that some of you are still receiving paper checks (instead of direct deposit) those checks will be mailed to you, you cannot pick them up at the district office or your school.

There is a lot of uncertainty at this time, but please know we are striving to do our very best to keep our staff, students, and community healthy in a very fluid situation. As I learn more I will continue to send updates. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

If you have questions, please feel free to email me.

Respectfully,

Tim