



Dear Days Creek Family,

The Oregon Department of Education released another round of changes late yesterday afternoon outlining when and how school districts could re-open. Today, ODE followed-up with a Superintendent meeting to explain the changes, and tomorrow, Douglas ESD will be facilitating a similar meeting that should bring even more clarity. Many of the changes were significant, especially those related to small, rural, and remote school districts, like Days Creek. Some of the changes were advantageous, while others pose real challenges.

After reviewing the recent changes, the leadership team concluded the existing reopening plan would need to be revised. Here are a few of the significant changes.

1. School size was increased from 100 to 250 students.
2. The enrollment number was changed from district to school.
3. The cohort size was reduced from 100 to 50.
4. The definition of a “rural and remote” school was provided.

What are a few ideas being considered given the changes from ODE?

- A. Stagger daily start/end times to adhere to the bus cohort limit.
- B. Set student course load that adheres to weekly cohort parameters.
- C. Stagger the first day of school to allow teachers to address specific grade-level needs for student and parent training and orientation. One idea “floated” was having different cohorts (50 or less) come to school to meet/greet, receive orientation/training, and reacclimate to the new protocols to start the year. Buses would operate, and lunch would be served. For example, the schedule could look something like;
 - August 24 - Kindergarten & First Grade.
 - August 25 - Grades 2 & 3.
 - August 26 - Grade 4, 5 & 6
 - August 27 - Grades 7 & 8
 - September 1 - Grades 9 & 10
 - September 2 - Grades 11 & 12
 - September 8 - All grades (K-6) and (7-12) begin on-campus learning with staggered start/end times (due to cohort limits).
- D. A rolling start gives the district the opportunity to assess every student and teacher’s valuable data that will guide their course instructional plan.
- E. Students will have the choice to select on-site or virtual/remote instruction.

Two virtual meetings (August 18 & 19) have been arranged to answer your questions. Both meetings begin at 6PM. [Here is the link to the Meet on August 18th](#), and the 19th meeting will be using Facebook Live. Links to the sessions can also be found on the school [website](#) under the coronavirus tab.

What is the timeline and process to determine when students return for onsite learning?

The metrics, which are officially released every Monday must be met for students to be on campus. See [Guiding metrics for in-person instruction](#). If the metrics allow, the leadership team will review all the input gathered and collaborate with faculty and staff on Monday, August 17th, which is their first day back to work. **The reopening plan will then be submitted and posted sometime before midnight, August 17th, on the school website.**

Below are several additional resources and links you may find useful involving reopening plans and the COVID virus:

- [Questions and Answers](#) and other [COVID-19 Updates](#)
- [Guiding metrics for in-person instruction](#) and ODE's [Ready Schools, Safe Learner plan](#)
- [Planning for COVID scenarios](#) and [current county metrics](#) that guide reopening
- [Possible Bell Schedule](#) for onsite learning
- Oregon Department of Education - [COVID Resources](#)
- You may also use [this short survey](#) to offer your input into the district reopening plan.

We are grateful for your continued partnership during this challenging time. Thank you for promoting safe and healthy practices in our community. Please contact me via email or phone at steve.woods@dayscreek.k12.or.us - 541-825-3296 if I can be of further assistance.

Go Wolves!

Steve Woods

Superintendent/Executive Director