

PERRYDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT DISTANCE LEARNING

April 6, 2020

Dear Perrydale Families,

Perrydale's Staff is dedicated to providing the best educational opportunities we can for our students. Our administrative team, working alongside our classified and licensed leadership, has partnered to develop and implement educational plans to support our students during this closure. During the last two weeks, students received supplemental materials from varying teachers. The original plan developed by the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) was for students to receive supplemental materials that would be completed at the discretion of the students and their families during a short term closure due to COVID-19. New guidance has been released that we will not be returning to school until April 29th. Our team is building distance learning education plans so that we may all follow Gov. Kate Brown's orders to Stay Home, Save Lives, and keep education going. The Governor has asked us to have these plans in place by April 13th.

We are working hard to best serve all of our students. We will be constantly communicating our plan, implementing it, evaluating it, and adjusting as necessary. Information will continue to be shared as further guidance is received from the governor, ODE, and the Oregon Health Authority. We will continue to provide updates and information on our website and Facebook page. The safety, health, and well-being of our students, staff, families, and our community are our highest priority.

We have the requirement to provide Distance Learning until April 29th or a later date if guided by the governor and ODE. Distance Learning is instruction in which the student and teacher are in different locations. It is not just online learning. It could include telephone support, students completing prepared packets, and other resources. Our plan is being formed and will contain a combination of efforts which will allow students to continue their educational progress while away from school. Please use this link to access information from your student's teachers regarding their remote learning classrooms; <https://sites.google.com/perrydale.k12.or.us/perrydalesupplementalresources/home>. Schedules for each grade can be found at this link as well. Student work will be collected and graded by the student's teachers. Their work will be for credit. We also do know that State testing such as Smarter Balanced testing has been suspended for this current school year. I ask for your continued patience as we adjust to this new requirement for our educators in support of our students. Our current supplementary and home-based education efforts will continue for this week only. Starting on Monday April 13th, Distance Learning will be in effect.

Students will complete assignments as directed by their teachers. We will focus on providing a majority of our educational platform via online resources for upper elementary through 12th grade. Younger students will receive packets of work to complete. Teachers will use Google Meet or Google Classroom for meeting the students. Student will have certain times during the day that they will be expected to complete learning activities/assignments. We will send those schedules soon. Students that have Wi-Fi that is spotty may come to the school and access the Wi-Fi in their vehicle. We have areas near the building where access is available. We will monitor the area to make sure students are not congregating together and only are accessing Wi-Fi as needed for school work. This will not become a place of assembly. Please use this as a last resort. Anyone that may need a Chromebook to complete their work can contact the office to receive a Chromebook loaner during the closure. Students needing a Chromebook may pick one up between the hours of 4pm and 9pm on Wednesday, April 8th. You will be able to stay in your vehicle in the parent pick-up line to receive one.

Students that need packets to complete assignments can pick up their packets at the school beginning April 13th. The designated area will be at the backside of the Science Lab. To get there, go through the gate that is between the Ag shop and Computer Lab. You will find bins marked for your student's grade. There will also be a single bin for Middle School and a single bin for High School. A sanitation station will be located by the bins. We ask that you sanitize your hands before opening any of the bins. The work from these packets will need to be returned by Wednesday April 22nd. There will be a mail slot into the Ag classroom where you can slide the completed materials. We will then have new materials available April 22nd which would need to be returned April 29th. Using a Wednesday to Wednesday schedule will help the teachers prepare materials and allow for the copying of materials needed for the packets. We will continue this schedule until we return to school or the school year is completed. If you are unable to pick up packets, please contact the office for alternative ways to pick up and drop off the packets.

What about 2020 graduates? We have been told by ODE staff members that direction for our graduates are their highest priority. It is anticipated that we will receive guidance on graduation requirements this week.

School facilities are closed to the public. We do have some essential staff on duty to complete the work necessary such as custodial staff, food service, administration, office staff., and staff to prepare education materials. If you do come on site for picking up materials, please do not come to the school office, just go to the designated site. We will continue to provide food service for those who have requested and for any others that contact the school with the need for meals for any child ages 1-18 that attends the school or has a sibling attending.

Mental health supports will also be available for students. Please reach out to Carmen Hilke at hilke.carmen@co.polk.or.us. Feel free to contact her for strategies to deal with our current situation or to find resources available.

Our new and temporary norm of education looks entirely different than what we are used to dealing with. This closure is an ever changing and unpredictable matter. While there is a lot to consider, I commit to keeping focused on our care for students and creating the unique connections which are required right now. I also commit to providing updates to you as they become available.

Eric Milburn

Superintendent