

Colton's School District 2020-21 Q & A

Virtual Information Sessions Q & A

Thank you for participating in virtual community information sessions. Here are some questions and answers from the sessions. We are still working to answer all the questions. Once updated, we will post another link to let you know this document has been updated.

Q. The weekly report about the county metrics today had a footnote about the county "groups." Clackamas-Multnomah-Washington. Are we "grouped" for the purpose of school as well?

A. Yes and No. We are grouped with these counties as it relates to the state metrics, but as it relates to Clackamas County Metrics to in-person learning, No.

Q. It might be silly to ask, but when will school supplies list be put out?

A. School Supplies lists should be posted on school websites. Please email school secretaries directly if you have any questions.

Q. With consideration of group work, will students be paired with similar skill set? How will student engagement with other students be determined?

A. Educators, specialists and principals determine the grouping of students in learning environments whether remote or in-person. Grouping students by skill set is one way to group students. Ultimately, the teacher determines grouping of students for projects and/or group work. Traditionally, educators use a variety of criteria to group students.

Q. I have a question for the parents who are commuting currently and can't view all the docs you referenced right now. You mentioned a once a day meeting for each student. Does this mean lessons won't be taught via zoom or classroom daily?

A. During Comprehensive Distance Learning (CDL), there will be synchronous and asynchronous opportunities for students each day.

Q. When will we find out about sports for HS?

A. OSAA released information this week. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Grant Hayball or Shawn Murray for more information as they are responsible for athletics in CSD. Here is the link to the new OSAA's Season calendar: <http://www.osaa.org/docs/osaainfo/Adopted20-21OSAASeasonCalendar.pdf>

Q. Will there be an opportunity for one on one student/teacher interaction?

A. Yes, there will be opportunities for one-on-one student/teacher interactions in distance learning.

Q. Some supplies will be in high demand- is there a plan for if the families can't find certain supplies in time?

A. CSD is ordering supplies and material in bulk. If parents cannot find something on the list, the district will support as needed.

Q. Why are you asking the kids what they prefer for learning, when this should be a parent decision?

A. Ultimately, it is a parent decision on where a student attends school (unless the student is over the age of 18). CSD wants to know the learning preferences of students for planning purposes. We ask that parents talk with students about how they prefer to learn when responding to the learner preference survey.

Q. I know you mentioned the teachers aren't back yet to decide but is there a way to find out a hard date on when that decision may happen?

A. The school board reviewed the plans on Monday, August 10th. The decision was made to start the year in distance learning due to the current COVID-19 metrics.

Q. My student is curious to if there will be electives this year? If so when do they get to choose?

A. There will be electives this year. The principals of each school will answer any questions you have about enrollment and electives. Please reach out to them if you have questions or concerns about elective options for students.

Q. How will cohorts be decided?

A. Cohorts are decided by grade level and by credits needed to graduate in high school. Some elective choices, like band, impact cohort decisions as well.

Q. Have you offered training to teachers for the online schooling side? Will there be multiple sites and logins like a few months ago?

A. Educators were trained last year on Google Classroom and remote learning. They will continue to participate in professional learning opportunities to improve Comprehensive Distance Learning for students. The student learning management system will be Google Classroom, and synchronous classrooms will take place in Google Meets/Hangouts. The main education sources are the board adopted curriculums. Board adopted curriculums have online access, and this may create more logins. We will try to minimize the logins for supplemental resources.

Q. In regards to online learning, I understand the state requirements of contact with teachers. However I am not home 2-3 days per week to ensure my student actually gets online at the right time. Is there some way the school plans to deal with these problems?

A. CSD is dedicated to working collaboratively with families to meet the needs of each student. We will be flexible in finding ways to support individual family circumstances.

Q. Will there be a set schedule for distance learning for each class?

A. Yes, the Colton School District Leadership team will meet in Mid-August to determine the schedules K-12. We will post schedules as soon as they are drafted for parent feedback. We appreciate ongoing feedback from parents and students letting us know what's working and what's not.

Q. Also is it possible to get Chromebooks? Are biggest struggle this spring was computer issues.

A. CSD will be distributing Chromebooks the week before school starts based on need. CSD staff will connect with families that borrowed Chromebooks last year. If you did not borrow a Chromebook last year, and need one, we will be reaching out to gather more data this year. We will support you with computer issues so please communicate with us when there are technology concerns.

Q. If parents choose to homeschool for this year, how would they return after the pandemic? Would they be required to make up all credits or do they somehow transfer? or would parents that choose to homeschool be better off just getting a GED? Specifically asking for a junior.

A. Students can return to learning with CSD at any time. We will be flexible with families to support specific needs during this time. If parents are registered for home schooling and using an accredited standards-based curriculum, the credits will transfer. It is always easiest to transfer credits at specific times like quarter or semester, but the high school team will work collaboratively with the family to try and transfer partial credits when possible. Earning a GED is a personal decision of the student and family. However, a high school diploma positions a student more competitively in the workforce and college.

Q. I am also hoping there are some later afternoon or evening learning options while we are online-only. Some synchronous opportunities at these times would be really great for my family.

A. CSD will be as flexible as possible and provide multiple synchronous learning opportunities for students.

Q. When do the teachers come back?

A. Some educators come back on August 20th, but most come back on August 31st.

Q. Are there any specific mask requirements? Homemade ok? Pull up face covering ok?

A. We are adding face coverings to the student supply list so that families can choose the most appropriate face covering for their students. The guidance states face coverings or face shields. Both homemade and pull up face coverings are fine.

Q. Will these lessons be taped to be viewed later for my son who may pick up hours during the day?

A. CSD will be flexible in meeting the needs of individual learners. If a student could benefit from a lesson being taped for later viewing, he/she should let the teacher and principal know this would be a helpful learning practice for the student.

Q. My sons working schedule during the day. Or will he be required to attend during the appointed time and be counted absent if he does not attend

A. Attendance will be calculated in a variety of ways. If your student is actively engaged in the asynchronous opportunities and completing the coursework, he will be considered present that day.

Q. Last year, the school work got dumped into google classroom on Monday and it was due by Wednesday. This was not enough time and I'd like to see the students given adequate time to do their work. They encounter more challenges to get through their assignments.

A. Parents and students should be communicating with educators and principals when things are not working for them. We can make needed adjustments for students and families.

Q. What will the school do to help improve ventilation in the classrooms?

A. CSD meets the current requirements on ventilation. CSD facilities leads are going above and beyond meeting the minimum requirements by upgrading filters in the ventilation systems to clean air and providing two air flow options in learning spaces to circulate clean air. If you have more specific questions regarding a specific school or learning space, please connect with our executive director of operations, Chris Gibb.

Q. How will you enforce the mask rule?

A. Through education. We will work with students and teach the expectations. We will provide spaces away from other students for face covering/mask breaks. If students refuse to wear face coverings, they will be removed from other students, and the principals will work collaboratively with students and families to enforce the face coverings. ***Students who abstain from wearing a face covering, or students whose families determine the student will not wear a face covering, during On-Site instruction must be provided access to instruction. Comprehensive Distance Learning may be an option, however additional provisions apply to students protected under ADA and IDEA.***

Q. Will we get a chance to see what our student's day/week will look like with the distance learning? For example what will assignments look like?

A. Yes, there will be a parent/student virtual orientation (virtual back-to-school night).

Q. Another homeschool question. If a 5th grader chooses to homeschool this year, would they be able to take the state required testing at your school? According to what we've read online it is at the school discretion to allow homeschoolers to test at the school.

A. If students choose to homeschool this year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will work collaboratively with families and students to meet the state testing requirements (Recognizing that this could be based on available seats due to cohort sizes. If another cohort needs to be created to support homeschool students, there could be a cost involved to pay for the staff that must proctor the test).

Q. Will you requiring kids stay 6 foot distance from their classmates during class time?

A. Yes, all students will be required to maintain 6 feet social distance throughout the school day.

Q. Should someone become COVID positive student or teacher, would the school shut down? Would we be notified?

A. There are specific protocols we have to follow if someone tests positive with COVID-19 to include communication protocols. CSD will be contact tracing to ensure the appropriate tracking of possible transmission of the virus. We will work in collaboration with the local health authority to determine if and when we close to in-person learning and transition to distance learning. We will notify people/parent who may have come in contact with a person that tested positive for COVID-19. Here is a link to our Comprehensive Communicable Disease Plan:

<https://www.colton.k12.or.us/cms/lib/OR02213525/Centricity/Domain/4/COLTON%20Comprehensive%20CD%20Plan.pdf>

Survey Q & A

Thank you for participating in the survey. These are the answers to the questions you submitted. Please continue to submit your questions and feedback via the [2020-21 School Year Feedback Survey](#).

Q. If distant learning happens again, why can't there be a live stream to the teacher teaching each day instead of all work being done on google classroom?

A. Not all distance learning will take place on Google classroom. Live stream in a teacher's classroom needs teacher collaboration and consultation. Teacher leaders return in August and will be collaborating on our District Leadership Team to discuss updates on our operational blueprints and distance learning framework. We did not receive the distance learning guidance from ODE until after educators left for the summer.

Q. The blueprints say 18 students and 1 teacher - How does that work when some classes have 22-23 students?

A. This was only given as an example and needs to be updated with the current ODE guidance. cohort sizes are based on square footage per person. The new guidance recommends maximum of 24-36 per cohort and still maintaining 35 square feet per person. The new guidance also limits the amount of people a student can come in contact with per week to 100 ([Ready Schools, Safe Learners Update, pg. 21](#)).

Q. Why are schools starting 30 minutes later than usual?

A. This is increased time in the morning for educators to plan for distance learning / hybrid / in-person. Educators need more time for planning and to engage in synchronous instruction with students online.

Q. If a **teacher tests positive** for Covid, will the students be required to stay home for a certain amount of time, or will they stay in the classroom until symptoms appear?

A. Individuals will be excluded based on symptoms and must remain home until symptoms have

resolved for 72 hours without use of fever reducing medication. **UNLESS** the individual has been **in contact with a known case** or **test positive**, then they are required to be at home for the designated period of monitoring (as a contact) or until illness has resolved for 72 hours and it is 14 days beyond the date of onset.

Q. Are you requiring high school students at all to wear a PPE?

A. Per ODE/OHA [New Ready Schools, Safe Learners guidelines](#),

Required Face coverings or face shields for all staff, contractors, other service providers, or visitors or volunteers following CDC guidelines Face Coverings. Face coverings or face shields for all students in grades Kindergarten and up following CDC guidelines Face Coverings. If a student removes a face covering, or demonstrates a need to remove the face covering for a short-period of time, the school/team must: Provide space away from peers while the face covering is removed; students should not be left alone or unsupervised; Provide additional instructional supports to effectively wear a face covering; Provide students adequate support to re-engage in safely wearing a face covering; Students cannot be discriminated against or disciplined for an inability to safely wear a face covering during the school day. Face masks for school RNs or other medical personnel when providing direct contact care and monitoring of staff/students displaying symptoms. School nurses should also wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for their role. ***Students who abstain from wearing a face covering, or students whose families determine the student will not wear a face covering, during On-Site instruction must be provided access to instruction. Comprehensive Distance Learning may be an option, however additional provisions apply to students protected under ADA and IDEA.***

Q. Will my child be allowed to wear a mask even if they are not required?

A. According to the [new guidelines](#), all students are required to wear face coverings/masks.

Q. Why is only the elementary school planning to hold classes outside when feasible? Why not all schools?

A. All schools can and will hold classes outside when feasible.

Q. How will the district ensure teachers use district approved curriculum and truly teach students of our community as they should through distance learning?

A. CSD must follow the [Comprehensive Distance Learning Guidelines from ODE](#) and use district approved curriculum. Principals will be supervising and evaluating educators within hybrid, distance learning, and in-person learning models in the 2020-21 school year. If any parent is not satisfied with the education their student is receiving, they should contact the school principal and share their concerns.

Q. Can my k-8 student use a full hybrid, attend in person 2 days a week, and do distance two days?

- A. CSD will be as flexible as possible to meet the needs of students and families. A parent should work collaboratively with the school staff to share the specific needs for the student, and together, determine if hybrid is in the student's best interest.
- Q. What will 3' distancing look like on school buses? 1 student per set, every other seat left empty?
- A. There will be one student per seat and zigzagged throughout the bus (window, aisle, window, aisle, etc.).
- Q. Diarrhea and vomiting have always been an excludable illness before. Why is it not in this Plan? "Note that muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, nasal congestion, and runny nose are also symptoms often associated with COVID-19, but are not enough in isolation to deny entry."
- A. The quote, "Note that muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, nasal congestion, and runny nose are also symptoms often associated with COVID-19, but are not enough in isolation to deny entry," is from the left side of the blueprint. The left side is ODE/OHA requirements/guidelines. CSD did not create this part of the plan. Diarrhea was previously excludable for 24 hours after symptom resolution, it is now excludable for 48 hours. Both diarrhea and vomiting are excludable in CSD.
- Q. How long will a student or staff member be excluded if they have signs of covid? Will a negative covid test be required to return to school/work?
- A. Individuals will be excluded based on symptoms and must remain home until symptoms have resolved for 72 hours without use of fever reducing medication. UNLESS, the individual has been in contact with a known case or test positive, then they are required to be at home for the designated period of monitoring (as a contact) or until illness has resolved for 72 hours, and it is 14 days beyond the date of onset. CSD cannot compel them to seek medical attention nor get a doctor's note since the guidelines are to seek care with shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. CSD can only compel notes where the legislation indicates so.
- Q. Will children enrolled in distance learning because of medical reasons have the same requirements, teacher, and materials as their peers?
- A. All students in distance learning options will have the similar opportunities, requirements, teachers, and materials as their peers.
- Q. Will we be back to our regular grading system?
- A. Educators will follow their typical grading systems.

- Q.** Is there new curriculum at the elementary school this fall since walk to read doesn't seem possible?
- A.** Walk to read is an intervention not a curriculum. There will be multi-tiered systems of support/interventions at CES within the cohort model.
- Q.** How will music work since the teacher will be in contact with all grade levels? What number of children can fit in the music room or band room and stay 12 feet apart? Most the cohorts seem to have larger numbers then could accommodate that space criteria?
- A.** The music teacher moves between cohorts at each school. Choral or band instruction must be 12 feet apart. If music incorporates choir or band, the cohort must maintain this guideline of 12 ft.
- Q.** Will there be school supply lists this year?
- A.** Yes.
- Q.** Will teachers have to stay 6 feet from students?
- A.** Yes, and when they need to do one-to-one support with a student they may not maintain 6 ft so they will be wearing a face shield and mask.
- Q.** Will kindergarten have recess?
- A.** All students will have breaks and/or recess.
- Q.** Will each 7th grader get their own locker?
- A.** Students will not be using lockers under social distancing guidelines.
- Q.** What will band look like for those students who do the hybrid distance learning from Colton?
- A.** Band will be similar to distance learning in the spring with some upgrades to meet the new comprehensive distance learning guidelines from ODE. During in-person days, band will be similar to typical band only following 12 feet social distancing guidelines.
- Q.** Will Colton teachers be the ones facilitating the distance learning?
- A.** Yes.
- Q.** Can a student start the year in person, then move to distance learning over the winter and return to in person in the spring?
- A.** The models are meant to be flexible to meet students' needs.
- Q.** Will in-person students receive instruction directly from a teacher, or will they be with an aid, receiving the instruction via broadcast in another location for space accommodations?

A. Licensed educators will supervise all learning for students. There may be occasions when an educational assistant facilitates or assists instruction for a cohort under the supervision of a teacher.

Q. What will library time look like at CES?

A. Library/media services will come to the cohorts within classrooms. Books will be accessible online.

Q. Can my child access the distance learning on days they are absent for non COVID reasons?

A. CSD will be as flexible as possible to provide adequate services to all students. Parents and students should work collaboratively with school staff when students are out of school for any reason. The distance learning model is really for students that are out for longer periods of time not just for short-term absences.

Q. When will these plans be finalized?

A. The ODE has set August 15th as the timeline for final submission of the operational blueprints.

Q. Will the students still have band?

A. Yes, band will still be offered at the middle and high school and music at the elementary school. The ODE/OHA recommend 12 feet apart for classes like band. The students will be in larger spaces or in smaller cohorts to maintain the 12 feet apart.

Q. Are students with asthma considered high-risk?

A. Yes, they may be considered high risk with [moderate to severe asthma](#). It is highly recommended parents take their children to the pediatrician if they have specific concerns about COVID-19, and how the virus may impact their child. If your student is high-risk, please notify [Jan Olson](#), Colton school district nurse with specific diagnosis and information from your child's pediatrician.

Q. What is considered high-risk?

A. From the [Ready Schools, Safe Learners Guidance from ODE](#):

1b. High-Risk Populations High-risk populations include people who have one or more of the following characteristics or conditions:

- ***Age 65 years or older***
- ***Chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma***
- ***COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)***
- ***Serious heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies***

- *Immunocompromising conditions, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications*
- *Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant*
- *Obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 or higher)*
- *Type 2 diabetes mellitus*
- *Chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis*
- *Liver disease*
- *Sickle cell disease*
- *Other conditions or risk factors identified by OHA, [CDC](#), or a licensed healthcare provider*

Q. What will the distance learning consist of? Will it be just like the spring? Or will students be able to engage with a teacher for learning?

A. Educators should have been engaging with students daily in the 2019-20 distance learning model. A variety of staff (to include and not limited to teachers, specialists, student support specialist, counselor, educational assistants, principals, etc.) will be engaging with students daily in the 2020-21 distance learning model. The ODE released the Comprehensive Distance Learning Guidance on June 30, 2020. The district leadership team (administrators & teachers) will be collaborating in August to upgrade CSD's 2019-20 distance learning model to meet the new ODE guidelines. Distance learning may not be the most effective way to educate students, and the CSD is committed to providing the most optimal learning experiences (distance & in-person) for all students.

From the [Comprehensive Distance Learning Guidance form ODE](#):

2A. Teaching and Learning

The familiar domains of teaching practices (i.e., preparation and planning, purpose, student engagement, classroom environment and culture, curriculum and pedagogy, and assessment of learning) apply to teaching in distance learning models. While state content standards must guide instruction, educators are encouraged to design purposeful learning experiences that build on students' identity and strengths.

Required

Provide a virtual orientation to ensure all students and parents know and understand virtual tools and procedures. Instruction is based on grade-level (or above grade-level) state content standards. Provide at least one synchronous opportunity for every student each day (though not necessarily for every course or content area). Provide access to a well-rounded education and opportunities to fill learning gaps in the service of grade-level and integrated learning experiences. Provide consistent and timely student feedback and documented assessment of

learning toward state content standards. Leverage formative assessment-practices to grow student's ability for independent learning. □ Incorporate time for check-ins and peer interactions; develop a classroom culture, even when the "classroom" is remote. □ Clearly define roles and responsibilities of educators, students and families (see Figure E on page 22).

Q. Will volunteers be allowed in school for the 2020-21 school year?

A. Volunteer services will not be allowed in schools with the current OHA/ODE/Executive Order guidelines. Only essential staff and students will be allowed in schools due to social distancing requirements of 35 square feet per person and the increased risk of exposure. Once the guidance is lifted and/or relaxed, volunteer services will return as usual. Volunteers are extremely important to the CSD community.

Q. Are you allowing sports at the high school level? If so, are you allowing parents to watch?

A. ODE/OHA/OSAA have not released guidance on fall sports. Fall sports are not under consideration until the guidance is released.

Q. What will middle school cohorts and recess look like?

A. Middle school cohorts are explained in the blueprint, and are determined by square footage of viable learning space. Each grade level will have the following cohorts: 7th, 3 cohorts; 8th, 3 cohorts; and 6th, 2 cohorts. Students will stay in their grade level cohorts for most of the day with teachers moving between cohorts. Students will also be a part of a morning and afternoon bus cohort. All cohorts will have scheduled breaks throughout the day to include lunch break. Cohorts limit the risk of exposure and spread of the virus.

Q. Will OSAA still require students to attend 5 classes a day in order to participate in sports activities?

A. OSAA has not released any formal guidance on sports for the 2020-21 school year. The CSD athletics administrator and director are working collaboratively with OSAA and will inform parents and students of the 2020-21 requirements.

Q. Who will be responsible for the 6-8th cohorts?

A. Educators will supervise all grade level cohorts. Educational assistants and specialists will support cohorts as needed.

Q. What are the logistics for recess and movement breaks?

A. All students will have scheduled recess and movement breaks. Students will participate in activities and breaks that maintain social distancing. Staff will teach, encourage, and supervise social distancing through games and activities.

Q. If provided and students start the 20-21 year as a distance learner, can they return to in-person school at any time during the year, for instance if restrictions lessened or COVID-19 cases declined?

A. Distance learning is provided as an option to all students. Students can return at any time to in-person learning. As the executive order restrictions lessen and COVID-19 cases decline so will the restrictions for schools.

Q. How will the safety protocols be followed consistently?

A. The CSD Safety Committee, principals, superintendent and district nurse are monitoring the implementation of the safety protocols for the in-person learning. Social distancing and personal hygiene practices will be taught to students and staff. All staff will be trained on how to keep themselves and our students safe, and how to reduce the risk of exposure and spread of communicable diseases.

Q. What are the arrival and dismissal times for each school?

A. The arrival and dismissal times for each school are located in section 5 - instruction of the blueprints. **CES** - arrival is 8:00 AM and dismissal is 2:35 PM **CMS** - arrival is 9:05 AM and dismissal is 3:53 PM. **CHS** - arrival is 8:50 AM and dismissal is 4:07 PM

Q. Will my child be allowed to wear a mask even if they are not required?

A. According to the [new guidelines](#), all students are required to wear face coverings/masks.

Q. How long will the school schedules be like this?

A. Once the executive order is lifted, we will return to typical school schedules.

Q. Can I decide to do distance learning for just one of my students?

A. Yes, distance learning can be provided as an option for any student.

Q. Is Colton planning on doing part time in person and part time distance learning in order to maintain social distancing?

A. In-person learning will be offered four days a week K-8 and hybrid for 9-12. We are cohorting to maintain social distancing in all three schools. The high school is hybrid because of the complexity of the schedule and the credits students need for graduation. Our high school

educators teach a great deal of subject areas so this limits the ability to provide a four-day schedule as well as maintain social distancing guidelines.

Q. How will this impact students on IEPs?

A. All students on IEPs will continue to receive special education services to make progress on their IEP goals.

Q. Will students still be provided transportation to and from school?

A. Yes, we will be providing transportation to and from school.

Q. How will attendance be taken? And will there be flexibility?

A. These questions are answered in section 2a. Enrollment and 2b. Attendance of the blueprints.

- Attendance will be taken twice per week following ODE guidance.
- Attendance policies and plans will encourage staff and students to stay home if someone in their house is sick.
- Teachers will notify the principal when the absence rate has increased by 20% or more.
- The principal will report this increase to the RN.
- Teachers will use the *Respiratory Surveillance* spreadsheet to document students with respiratory illness.
- All students will be enrolled following the Oregon Department of Education guidelines.
- No student will be dropped for non-attendance if they meet the following conditions:
 - Are identified as vulnerable, or otherwise considered to be part of a population vulnerable to infection with COVID-19
 - Have COVID-19 symptoms for the past 14 days