



Colton School District 53
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Dr. Koreen Barreras-Brown, Superintendent

8/11/20

Dear Colton Students & Families:

Given the new state metrics for determining in-person learning for schools in Oregon, we will be starting the school year in Comprehensive Distance Learning. This is a very difficult transition for everyone. I am grateful for the community, staff, and board member participation in the community information and feedback session on the 2020-21 school year.

At last night's board meeting, we reviewed the operational blueprints and the metrics for Clackamas County reentry to in-person learning in schools. We do not meet the current metrics for the county or the state to safely reentry into in-person learning. However, the School Board and District Leadership team reviewed the operational blueprint models for comprehensive distance learning, in-person learning and hybrid learning and have agreed to submit them to the state. Next, these blueprints will be submitted to the local county health agency and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE). [The operational blueprints](#) are posted on the front page of our website for public review.

The District Leadership team will be developing specific CDL schedules for each school. These schedules will be shared with you in mid to late August. You can find the [CSD Distance Learning Instructional Framework](#) on the front page of our website along with the [Comprehensive Distance Learning \(CDL\)](#) guidance from ODE, both will look very different from the spring of last year. The guidance from ODE is much more complex and rigorous than previous guidance. Here are some examples of the CDL requirements for the 2020-21 school year:

- 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, to include letter grades. 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.

We want to ensure our students have a smooth transition into CDL and back into in-person learning when the county and state metrics allow. This means we will work toward a natural transition point to evaluate for the return to in-person learning. Currently, the plan is to stay in CDL until the end of the first quarter, November 5th. If the COVID-19 metrics allow for in-person learning in Clackamas County, we will transition back to in-person learning on Thursday, November 12th. The School Board will be reviewing the school calendar to make the needed adjustments at the September Board meeting. The hope is that the educators have their grading day on Friday, November 6th and then all staff return to work on Monday, November 9th and Tuesday, November 10th to prepare for the reentry of students on Thursday, November 12th (the day after Veteran's Day).

We know this pandemic has had an impact on all of us. It has been an honor to lead alongside you as the superintendent of Colton School District. Your feedback and input has been instrumental in the reentry process. Please continue to share your questions, concerns and suggestions with us. As we get closer to September 8th, please reach out to your principals and educators if you have questions regarding the start-up to the new school year.

We are in this together! We are Colton Strong!

Sincerely,

Dr. Koreen N. Barreras-Brown, Colton School District Superintendent