

March 17, 2020

Dear Parents and Community members,

Our community, our state, and much of the world are now dealing with an unprecedented public health crisis. Today, Governor Kate Brown issued an Executive Order extending the closure of all public schools through April 28th.

This action is intended to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus and to protect Oregonians at the highest risk of contracting the disease, the Governor said in her Order. "I also recognize that school closures disproportionately impact Oregon's most vulnerable children and families," but "action is necessary to minimize disruptions...on Oregon's health care system, first responders, and emergency workers."

Governor Brown's order will ensure that schools continue to receive funding during this closure so that employees will not be laid off and vital services, including meals for students, can continue. We will also have information coming at the end of spring break on supplemental educational options for your students.

Schools are essential to communities. We know that extending the school closure will cause difficulties for many families who rely on their schools for meals, and a safe place to be during the day. Since the COVID-19 coronavirus first emerged in Oregon, we have followed the guidance of our public health agency partners, including the Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Department of Education, in taking preventative steps to make staff and students safe.

Please make every effort to follow published health-related guidelines such as regular handwashing and social distancing. During this health crisis, it is not recommended that students congregate with groups of people or friends. We still have time as a community to slow down the spread of coronavirus by working together.

We are in uncharted waters, but please know that Central Linn School District, in collaboration with local and state authorities, is doing its best to support our broader community as the reality of this unprecedented crisis continues to evolve.

Sincerely Brian Gardner,

Superintendent