Dear Families:

This is an update, based upon information from both the Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Health Authority. Plus, I would like to ensure that parents are being kept informed.

The positive news is that we are still in the process of planning on opening for our first Community Day on September 8. Prior to the Community Day, we will have our “Meet and Greet” with families, but each cohort will have individual virtual sessions. Your child’s teacher will be notifying you during the next month to give information regarding these “Meet and Greet” sessions and curriculum pick-up. It is critical to read all information that comes in from either the teachers or me.

Our Community Day Schedule will be as follows:

Tuesday Kindergarten (9:00 – 12:00), Grades 3-5 Cohort A, Grades 6-8 Cohort A (9:00 – 2:30)

Wednesday Grades 1-2 Cohort A, Grades 3-5 Cohort B, Grades 6-8 Cohort B (9:00 – 2:30)

Thursday Grades 1-2 Cohort B, Grades 3-5 Cohort C, Grades 6-8 Cohort C (9:00 – 2:30)

No cohorts will have more than 10 students, with proper physical distancing in the classroom. We are making every effort to work with families who have multiple children at the school and want them on the same days. Of course, we cannot put kindergarten and 1-2 grades on the same day since Mrs. Norton teaches both groups.

If a parent is extremely concerned for their child attending school in September, they may opt into our Distance Learning plan if they notify the principal via email. My email is rbrown@scappoose.k12.or.us. You will still be required to conference and complete required work. Since your child would not be attending their Community Day, expect additional work to supplement the day of non-attendance onsite.

Recent Changes that Impact Schools:

1. Masks are going to be required for all students K-12 in Oregon schools. Therefore, you need to ensure that your child has a mask, labeled, with the child’s name on it. If you are unable to get a mask, please let me know. One parent has agreed to make some masks but needs prior notification. If other families can support the school by making masks, we would appreciate it. Please let me know of your needs or services. A mask, to me, is very personal, and a child may want to choose their own. Disposable masks, although fine, need to be replaced on a daily basis.
2. All Board Meetings will be virtual this year.
3. Charter Schools, by their designation, can switch to complete Distance Learning if they feel it is necessary during the year. (We would not do this unless recommended by the Columbia County Public Health Department).
4. This year will return to graded classrooms (not pass/fail) and mandated attendance. If a student is not active for ten consecutive days, that student will be dropped.

Also, I would like to thank all families who attended the first Zoom meeting for SCFS last Wednesday. For those who could not make it, our next one is August 5 at 7:00. A reminder will be sent out to families about this meeting the week of August 5.

Please visit our website page that is specifically for reopening schools. There is a lot of information. The only link that isn’t active right now is our Operational Blueprint, a required document for reopening. It is completed but is being revised daily due to new developments.

My August letter is in the process of being completed, so it will be forthcoming. I don’t want to send it out too early if changes occur. It will be mailed to you directly.

As I have said, your child’s safety and their education are our top priorities. We will continue to look at methods that will benefit both categories. Please visit our webpage on reopening:

<https://www.scfamilyschool.net/emergency-plan-response-to-covid-19>

As you help prepare your child for school, you may want to show them these videos. The first one is on handwashing. There is no sound, but it gives an indication of how to do it correctly.

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cbX0xwKORjk&list=PL3x4Ea2JeHaQYW0tmJi86EBJHQ2nw-ZHr&index=8**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cbX0xwKORjk&list=PL3x4Ea2JeHaQYW0tmJi86EBJHQ2nw-ZHr&index=8)

Since some children, although now required statewide for public places, may still be bothered by wearing masks, here is a short video to watch to explain why we wear masks.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4KRuP1QGmhU>

Thank you again for supporting your children and our school through this unique time.

Ray Brown, Principal

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