



# Sisters School District

“Home of the Outlaws”

---

Curtiss Scholl  
Superintendent

May 29, 2020

Dear Sisters Schools Community,

I want to start by encouraging all of you, students, staff, and parents to finish strong. It has not been the spring that any of us would have imagined, but we are almost through it. Keep working hard and finish strong.

Our administrative team has been planning for opportunities for our students to engage in Summer Learning. As we finish this semester, our staff will identify students that they think will best be served to help recover and / or keep advancing their learning and potential credit achievement as we look to the 2020-21 school year.

I have started to get questions about the fall and what will “going back to school” look like? We are expecting the Oregon Department of Education to release some additional guidance sometime within the next two weeks. Although summer break will be over before we know it, I want to remind everyone that the start of next school year is still three months from now, that is an eternity in pandemic time. We officially started “Distance Learning” on April 13th, not even two months ago! I know it feels longer than that!

Here is what I know as we prepare for next year. We have learned we are not as strong on the social emotional development aspect of school under Distance Learning. Next, the shift to Distance Learning for all happened with little to no “runway,” and our staff and community has responded with a collective, “We got this.” We also know there is a wide variety of opinions about the shutdown. I have heard from some that feel it should not have happened and others who think we should not be physically back in school in any form in the fall.

My final point is this, wherever you fall on the spectrum, Sisters School District and staff will continue to work with you to support our students. Whether we fully reopen in the fall, continue Distance Learning, some other hybrid of Distance Learning, or support students fully online, we will be ready to serve our students and partner with our families in their educations. Again, as we look forward, we need to fall back on our core values for focus which is investing in relationships that support every student’s growth and sense of belonging, creating extraordinary learning experiences that make learning real, empower and support students and staff to become the best versions of themselves, and prepare students to be courageous individuals, effective communicators, critical thinkers, and problem solvers for life.

Stay Safe,

Curt Scholl  
Superintendent,  
Sisters School District