

# Crook County School District

where students dream, learn, & succeed



August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Valued Parents,

We are excited to share good news with you tonight. Crook County's Covid-19 health metrics keep moving in the right direction, and we're now planning to open our elementary schools on September 8<sup>th</sup> for K-3 students. We need to monitor the data the rest of this week, so **we'll make an official announcement by Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>.**

The Oregon Health Authority released updated Covid-19 health metrics today, and we've met the requirements for three weeks in a row. Based on a recent parent survey, 80% of parents prefer that our schools open to students if Crook County meets the state's health requirements. In partnership with your Crook County School Board, we have made the decision that if the numbers remain low through the end of this current week, K-3 students will start in-person on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Week Starting Date	Case Count	Case Per 100,000	County Test Positivity (<5%)	Could K-3 Open?	State Test Positivity (<5%)	Could 4-12 Open?
July 5 <sup>th</sup>	5	21	3.6%	Yes	5.7%	No
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	7	30	4.6%	Yes	5.4%	No
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	7	30	3.1%	Yes	5.7%	No
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	10	43	5.5%	No	6.2%	No
August 2 <sup>nd</sup>	5	21	4.2%	Yes	5.2%	No
August 9 <sup>th</sup>	5	21	1.0%	Yes	5.2%	No
→ August 16 <sup>th</sup>	2	9	0.0%	Yes	5.1%	No
New August 23 <sup>rd</sup>						
August 30 <sup>th</sup>						
September 6 <sup>th</sup>						
September 13 <sup>th</sup>						
New weekly data released every Tuesday						

## "Big Picture" Weekly Metrics

### To Open K-3

- ≤ 30 cases per 100,000 people
- Test positivity rate of ≤ 5%
- In addition, we must meet the criteria for 3 weeks in a row
- No "local spread"

### To Open 4-12

- ≤ 10 cases per 100,000 people
- County Test positivity rate of ≤ 5%
- State test positivity rate of ≤ 5%
- In addition, we must meet the criteria for 3 weeks in a row

What about students in 4<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades? In order to bring the rest of our students back, Crook County will need to maintain the following metrics for three straight weeks or through September 7<sup>th</sup>.

- Maintain less than 10 cases per 100,000
- Crook County's test positivity rate remains below 5%
- State's positivity rate drops below 5%

Currently, Oregon's test positivity rate sits at 5.1%, so that means 4<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grades aren't allowed to return yet. We will provide an update every two weeks, and if the metrics allow, our goal is to bring all students back to the buildings.

### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

For families with students entering K-12 this year, we have **two important requests**. Please register for bus service, and make sure you're signed up for Free & Reduced Meals. It's extremely important to register for bus service by August 31<sup>st</sup>, so our Transportation Department can finalize routes. Check out these important links that will help us plan for the new school year:

- [Bus Rider Registration](#)
- [Free & Reduced Meals](#)
- [School Supply List](#)
- [Student Registration](#)

We are so grateful for your continued patience through the ups and downs of Covid-19. Our teachers and staff can't wait to potentially see the little ones back in the buildings on September 8th. If you have any questions about your child's school or still have concerns about educational options, please reach out to the school where your child attends: [School Building Contact List](#).

We look forward to providing you with the next significant update on Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, and hopefully confirming that K-3 students can start school in the classrooms.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sara E. Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "S" and "J".

Dr. Sara E. Johnson, Superintendent