



GRANT SCHOOL DISTRICT #3

401 N. Canyon City Blvd. • Canyon City, OR 97820
Phone: (541) 575-1280 • Fax: (541) 575-3614

BOARD MEETING

GU OLD GYM

Or by Zoom at

Topic: August Board Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89377289651>

Meeting ID: 893 7728 9651
Passcode: 12345

TUESDAY, August 3, 2021
6:00 P.M.

DOCKET OF BUSINESS

1.0 PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

- 1.1 Call to Order
- 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.3 Agenda Review
- 1.4 Public Forum
- 1.5 Swear in New Board Members: Chris Labhart
Kelly Stokes
Jake Taylor
Aaron Lieuallen
Haley Walker

2.0 NEW BUSINESS

- 2.1 Appoint Board Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the 2021-22 School Year
- 2.2 Ready Schools, Safe Learners Resiliency Framework for 2021-22 School Year

3.0 FUTURE AGENDA AND CALENDAR ITEMS

- August 16 Teacher In-service
- August 23 First Day of School
- August 25 Board Meeting
- September 15..... Board Meeting
- October 20 Board Meeting
- Nov. 11-13 Annual OSBA Convention
- January 19..... Board Meeting
- February 16..... Board Meeting
- March 16..... Board Meeting
- April 20..... Board Meeting (Seneca)

May 4.....Budget Meeting
May 18.....Board/(Optional) Budget Meeting
June 1.....Budget Hearing/Board Meeting
June 2.....Last Day of School
June 3.....Teacher In-service

4.0 GOOD OF THE ORDER

5.0 ADJOURN

Board Packet posted on district web site at: <http://www.grantesd.k12.or.us/District-3/index.htm>

Grant School District 3 does not discriminate in employment, educational programs, and activities on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or associational preference. The District also affirms its commitment to providing equal opportunities and equal access to its facilities. For additional information or assistance contact the District office at 541-575-1280, 401 N. Canyon City Blvd., Canyon City, OR 97820. For telecommunications relay services for the deaf, hearing or speech impaired call 1-800-735-2900.

Heidi Hallgarth

From: Bret Uptmor
Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 10:08 AM
To: Aaron Lieuallen; Chris Labhart; Colleen Robertson (ctaugher@hotmail.com); Haley Walker; Heidi Hallgarth; Jake Taylor; Kelly Stokes
Subject: Additional comments
Attachments: legislator and ODE response.pdf; community input.pdf

Grant School District Board of Directors,

I have attached input I received from parents and community members over the weekend and yesterday. I also have attached reply's from Colt Gill and the legislators secretaries.

I want to let you know that we will be at the GU Old Gym at 6:00 August 3.

Update on yesterday's meeting with ODE and OHA.

Colt Gill explained that the change to mandatory mask was a direction the governor moved to because of the large spread we are experiencing in the state. The Delta Variant is highly concerning because there are not protections for student with vaccine. Only half our students are even eligible for a vaccine. although the first release of the guidance on June 25 said local control there was a caveat that the governor could take measure to revert back to state control. OHA will be the agency adopting the rule not ODE. The rule will go in to effect August 2, 2021 and enforced August 12, 2021. These are some draft components of the rule.

Schools must ensure that all individuals, including but not limited to staff, students, contractors and visitors wear a mask, except as provided in sections (4) and (5) of this rule, when in an indoor setting:

- At school during regular school hours;
- Engaged in educational activities such as field trips or off-campus classes during regular school hours; and
- At school engaged in educational activities outside of regular school hours.
- A face shield may be worn instead of a mask if an individual cannot wear a mask for medical reasons.
- Nothing in this rule is intended to prohibit a school from complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Rehabilitation Act, or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

An individual is not required to wear a mask under section (3) of this rule if the individual is:

- Actively eating or drinking.
- Sleeping.
- Playing a musical instrument that requires using the mouth.
- Engaged in a sport during physical education class such as swimming, other water sports, or a sport where wearing a mask could be a strangulation hazard such as gymnastics or wrestling.
- Alone in a private office enclosed by walls on all sides with a door that is closed.
- Is under the age of two (2).

Colt outlined consequences to violations of mask mandates.

- A school that violates this rule is subject to a civil penalty of \$500 per day per violation/incident.

- OHA has authority/responsibility under ORS 431A.010 for additional action
- Licensed educators who fail to obey this rule may face additional penalties. OAR 584-020-0035 (3) The ethical educator, in fulfilling obligations to the profession, will: (a) Maintain the dignity of the profession by respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal integrity and honesty. There would also be a possible violation of 584-020-0025 (3)(a), related to leadership skills. Deviation from these standards may subject the educator to discipline for gross neglect of duty, per OAR 584-020-0040 (4)(n) & (o).

Jim Green added that our district liability for COVID would be \$50,000 per incident if following the rules. If we are not following the rules there is no protections. District, boards, administration and staff not following the rules could be held personally liable.

I visited with Mark Owens this morning and we are preparing a meeting with our legislators to see if we can gain back a little common sense in the rule. It is my next step in advocating for the district. If you have additional paths that may help let me know.

See you tonight.

Bret Uptmor, Superintendent
Grant School District #3
uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us
Office 541 575-1280 Ext. 25
Cell 208 230-4116
Fax 541 575-3614

Strategy Choices for the required 20%+ to address the academic impact of lost instructional time:

- **Empowering, Adaptable Instruction:** For students to experience empowering curriculum that is motivating, appropriately-challenging, and that honors their identity and lived experience, districts and schools need a high-quality, culturally relevant curriculum, time and expertise for teachers to collaborate and check-in on student learning, and support that is differentiated and adjustable to meet students' strengths and needs. (Possible examples: Implementing or deepening authentic, culturally-responsive learning; assessing quality of current instructional materials and Investing in high-quality instructional materials from the adopted materials list or independent adoption that meets state criteria and providing high-quality professional learning for teachers on implementation, investing in formative assessment practices, providing sufficient time for both content-focused collaboration and planning as well as student-focused collaboration, providing instructional coaching and resources, providing career connect learning (CTE).)
- **Time & Attention:** For students to engage in learning that meets their strengths and distinct needs, districts and schools need to explore new ways to expand and vary the time and individualized attention they receive inside and outside of school hours. (Possible examples: Providing focused, high-dosage tutoring, peer tutoring, extended school day, enrichment programs, summer academic and enrichment, planning for post-secondary and career, developing work-based learning programs.)
- **Conditions for Teachers:** For students to experience engaging, high-quality instruction in a supportive environment, districts and schools need to prioritize ways to make teaching jobs and roles more rewarding, collaborative, and sustainable while also tending to teacher mental health and well-being. (Possible examples: providing mentors and/or at least one team member that has an instructional content expert to help with planning, providing stipends and/or release time for selected teacher leadership roles, investing in wellness supports, providing highly effective teachers with opportunities to share their strengths and expand their impact).
- **Relationships & Mental Health Support:** For students to feel safe, welcome and supported in school, districts and schools need to develop structures and enact policies and practices that cultivate positive, supportive relationships, and provide for staff and student mental and emotional health needs. (Possible examples: create time and space in the school day for relationship building, provide opportunities for staff and students to make meaning of their experience through creative outlets [art, music, writing, movement etc.], regularly engage with staff, students and families to assess their relational and emotional support needs, and build robust relationships with linguistically and culturally responsive community health and mental health providers and local systems of care.)
- **Family & Community Partnerships:** To increase academic, health, mental health and emotional support for students, districts and schools need to engage families as partners and leverage the local community and its system of care to provide integrated, wrap-around services and supports. (Possible examples: Implementing or deepening community-based organization's support to provide authentic, culturally-responsive academic enrichment and learning supports, strengthening connections with local systems of care, communicating in home languages, culturally-specific liaisons, business and college partnerships.)
- **Other** prioritized strategies, please describe.

OUTCOMES		Supporting Strategy		
		S1	S2	S3
ESSER III Overarching Outcome	Address student needs arising from the coronavirus pandemic and/or to emerge stronger post-pandemic, which may include reopening schools safely, sustaining their safe operation, and addressing students' social, emotional, and mental health.	X	X	X
Unfinished Learning Outcome (at least 20%)	Address unfinished learning through the implementation of evidence-based interventions and ensure that those interventions respond to students' social, emotional, and academic needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups (each major racial and ethnic group, children from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, gender, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care).	X	X	X

STRATEGY	
Strategy #1	Provide student access to curriculum, teachers, support staff in multiple ways
Strategy #2	Ensure technology supports all populations
Strategy #3	Provide mental and emotional supports for staff and students
Strategy #4	School physical environment

#	Activities (Planned items to support a strategy, which may include providing/implementing an intervention.)	Aligned Primary Strategy	Required		Optional if available			
			Year 1 Estimated Cost	Identified for Instruction (20%+)	Year 2 Estimated Cost	Identified for Instruction (20%+)	Year 3 Estimated Cost	Identified for Instruction (20%+)
1	Provide an on call support number for students to access for academic needs	S1	\$ 10,800.00	Yes	\$ 10,800.00			
2	Support academic after school students 2x/week 1 teacher min 2 aides min,	S1	\$ 30,000.00	Yes	\$ 30,000.00			
3	Provide chromebooks, internet, and space for students	S2	\$ 30,000.00	Yes	\$ 5,000.00			
4	Ensure technology is available for staff to meet students needs	S2	\$ 11,340.00	No	\$ 5,040.00		\$ 5,040.00	
5	Activities to support students and staff in reengaging with school	S3	\$ 10,000.00	Yes	\$ 10,000.00			
6	Staffing to support reengagement in school	S3	\$ 20,000.00	Yes	\$ 20,000.00			
7	Staff sub time to prepare lessons in SEL	S3	\$ 5,000.00	Yes	\$ 5,000.00			
8	Mental health supports start up	S2	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 7,500.00			

9	People Mover transportation pickup	S1	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00		
10	Incentives and snacks for after school students support - gift card, grant county	S1	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 18,000.00		
11	Advertisement	S1	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00		
12	Support and materials for first day of school activities	S3	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00		
13	Online teacher	S1	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00		
14	Student desk that support chromebook use	S1	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 7,500.00		
15	Staff area to decompress, comfortable seating, soft lighting, etc	S3	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		
16	Ventilation	S4	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00		
17	Extra hours for deep cleaning schools	S4	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00		
18						
19						
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21						
22						
23						
24						
25						
26						
27						
28						
29						
Total			\$ 400,140.00	\$ 341,840.00	\$ 5,040.00	

Total District Allocation \$0.00

	Budgeted or Estimated	Progress toward meeting min 20%+ on learning loss (dollar amount)	Progress toward meeting min 20%+ on learning loss (%)	Minimum 20%+ Requirement
Year 1	\$400,140.00	\$105,800.00		
Year 2	\$341,840.00	\$0.00		
Year 3	\$5,040.00	\$0.00		
	\$747,020.00	\$105,800.00	#DIV/0!	\$0.00

Marion	2137	Gervais SD 1	\$1,988,145.20	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,988,145.20
Clackamas	1931	Gladstone SD 115	\$2,807,354.66	\$ -	\$ -	\$2,807,354.66
Douglas	2000	Glendale SD 77	\$876,628.18	\$ -	\$ -	\$876,628.18
Douglas	1992	Glide SD 12	\$1,797,566.56	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,797,566.56
Josephine	2054	Grants Pass SD 7	\$14,617,803.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$14,617,803.50
Linn	2100	Greater Albany Publ	\$15,734,628.01	\$ -	\$ -	\$15,734,628.01
Multnomah	2183	Gresham-Barlow SD	\$19,662,616.74	\$ -	\$ -	\$19,662,616.74
Harney	2014	Harney County SD 3	\$1,991,027.90	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,991,027.90
Harney	2015	Harney County SD 4	\$214,647.38	\$ -	\$ -	\$214,647.38
Harney	2023	Harney County Unio	\$159,350.85	\$ -	\$ -	\$159,350.85
Malheur	2114	Harper SD 66	\$252,011.40	\$ -	\$ -	\$252,011.40
Linn	2099	Harrisburg SD 7J	\$1,659,441.63	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,659,441.63
Umatilla	2201	Helix SD 1	\$119,133.07	\$ -	\$ -	\$119,133.07
Umatilla	2206	Hermiston SD 8	\$10,847,808.07	\$ -	\$ -	\$10,847,808.07
Washington	2239	Hillsboro SD 1J	\$24,917,555.36	\$ -	\$ -	\$24,917,555.36
Hood River	2024	Hood River County S	\$4,979,092.67	\$ -	\$ -	\$4,979,092.67
Baker	1895	Huntington SD 16J	\$188,193.08	\$ -	\$ -	\$188,193.08
Union	2215	Imbler SD 11	\$204,945.69	\$ -	\$ -	\$204,945.69
Morrow	3997	Ione SD R2	\$90,176.10	\$ -	\$ -	\$90,176.10
Jefferson	2053	Jefferson County SD	\$8,359,079.63	\$ -	\$ -	\$8,359,079.63
Marion	2140	Jefferson SD 14J	\$1,436,433.46	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,436,433.46
Clatsop	1934	Jewell SD 8	\$709,359.18	\$ -	\$ -	\$709,359.18
Grant	2008	John Day SD 3	\$1,194,312.52	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,194,312.52
Malheur	2107	Jordan Valley SD 3	\$158,992.45	\$ -	\$ -	\$158,992.45
Wallowa	2219	Joseph SD 6	\$475,354.37	\$ -	\$ -	\$475,354.37
Lane	2091	Junction City SD 69	\$2,962,046.26	\$ -	\$ -	\$2,962,046.26
Malheur	2109	Juntura SD 12	\$ -	\$90,000.00	\$ -	\$90,000.00
Klamath	2057	Klamath County SD	\$16,156,162.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$16,156,162.50
Klamath	2056	Klamath Falls City Sc	\$12,813,687.97	\$ -	\$ -	\$12,813,687.97
Clatsop	2262	Knappa SD 4	\$647,527.14	\$ -	\$ -	\$647,527.14
Union	2212	La Grande SD 1	\$4,858,090.84	\$ -	\$ -	\$4,858,090.84
Lake	2059	Lake County SD 7	\$1,656,548.58	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,656,548.58
Clackamas	1923	Lake Oswego SD 7J	\$1,509,432.69	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,509,432.69
Linn	2101	Lebanon Community	\$8,364,104.20	\$ -	\$ -	\$8,364,104.20

Grant School District #3

**American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary
School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER);
OAR 581-022-0106 (State Operational Plan)**

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

District Information

Institution ID: 2008 Institution Name: Grant School District #3

District Continuity of Services Plan/RSSL Contact Name and Title:

Bret Uptmor

Contact Phone: 541-575-1280 Contact Email: uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

In order to best support students and families with the safest possible return to school for the 2021 school year, the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) has created an operational plan template to align guidance from the federal and state level in support of local decision-making and transparency of health and safety measures in the communities that school districts serve. The Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan serves the following purposes:

- 1) Replaces the Ready Schools, Safe Learners Operational Blueprint required under [Executive Order 21-06](#); and
- 2) Meets the requirements for:
 - a. An operational plan required under [OAR 581-022-0106\(4\)](#), while aligning the [CDC Guidance](#) on School Reopening with the [Ready Schools, Safe Learners Resiliency Framework for the 2021-22 School Year](#) (RSSL Resiliency Framework);
 - b. [Section 2001\(i\)\(1\)](#) of the ARP ESSER and the US Department of Education's [Interim Final Requirements](#) for Safe Return/Continuity of Services Plan; and
 - c. Communicable Disease Plan and Isolation Plan under [OAR 581-022-2220](#) (Division 22 requirements).

As districts plan and implement the recommendations in ODE's RSSL Resiliency Framework, they will need to consider a continuum of risk levels when all recommendations cannot be fully implemented. For example, universal correct wearing of face coverings between people is one of the most effective preventive measures. However, there will be times when this is not possible based on a specific interaction or a physical space limitation, such as during meal times. It will be necessary to consider and balance the mitigation strategies described to best protect health and safety while ensuring full time in person learning.

ODE remains committed to the guiding principles introduced in spring of 2020 to generate collective action and leadership for efforts to respond to COVID-19 across Oregon. These principles are updated to reflect the current context:

- **Ensure safety and wellness.** Prioritizing basic needs such as food, shelter, wellness, supportive relationships and support for mental, social, and emotional health of students and staff.
- **Center health and well-being.** Acknowledging the health and mental health impacts of this past year, commit to creating learning opportunities that foster creative expression, make space for reflection and connection, and center on the needs of the whole child rather than solely emphasizing academic achievement.

- **Cultivate connection and relationship.** Reconnecting with one another after a year of separation can occur through quality learning experiences and deep interpersonal relationships among families, students and staff.
- **Prioritize equity.** Recognize the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Latino/a/x, Pacific Islander communities; students experiencing disabilities; students living in rural areas; and students and families navigating poverty and houselessness. Apply an equity-informed, anti-racist, and anti-oppressive lens to promote culturally sustaining and revitalizing educational systems that support every child.
- **Innovate.** Returning to school is an opportunity to improve teaching and learning by iterating on new instructional strategies, rethinking learning environments, and investing in creative approaches to address unfinished learning.

Continued on next page.

Mental Health Needs

ARP ESSER & OAR 581-022-0106 Component	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted to ensure continuity of services	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
Devote time for students and staff to connect and build relationships	We are starting the year with a barbecue which will bring together parents and students. This has been a tradition prior to COVID. We have added a lot of activities to our event in hope we can decrease the anxiety for students that are returning to school. Most of our students were in the building last year for in person instruction. We will implement various activities within our school throughout the year to keep students connected to school. We have a mental health first aid training for staff at the beginning of the year. That training will transition to activities for students in the classroom every week at a prescribed time. <u>There will be a first day of school celebration to help</u>	We have had a majority of students for on-site instruction. Our transition plan is to reincorporate on-line learners with on-site learners and move to the next level by trying to create some normalcy back in on-site school. Even with the restrictions that are advised at this point our plan is to have as much of a regular looking school year as possible. While writing our plan we considered all subgroups with priority towards making everyone feel included in our positive culture.
Ample class time, and private time if needed, for creative opportunities that allow students and staff to explore and process their experiences	We have created our schedules so that students in the schools will receive all the instructional time that is necessary. For all the students who have chosen to do on-line, we will document our instruction to make sure we are meeting the requirements. We will provide academic support after school both in person and using virtual platforms. The staff have not had access to an area that is a retreat from the classroom. A staff room upgrade will help give an area to decompress and process their experiences. Student desks are mixed-type tops. There are multiple desks that have slanted tops and Chromebooks do not function well. <u>Replacing the desks will decrease student</u>	We will continue to create an environment that serves all student equitably. All student subgroups will have access to our programs and advertisement will target subgroups.

ARP ESSER & OAR 581-022-0106 Component	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted to ensure continuity of services	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
Link staff, students and families with culturally relevant health and mental health services and supports	We have hired one behavior interventionist that will be at the elementary. We are working on contract services with our local mental health agency for services at the high school. Our target is to work on the mental health of students and staff. We have hired an engagement specialist to work with parents to connect them and their student to the school. That person started July 1 and has already made contact with parents of students who were not part of our school community last year.	The designated subgroups will be targeted by specialists to support them in accessing mental health services and supports as well as emotional regulation strategies.
Foster peer/student lead initiatives on wellbeing and mental health	There is a self manager program at the elementary school, implementation of SEL programs like Sources of Strength at the high school. Pride lessons are part of a monthly PBIS program for grades 7-12. The 6 Pillars of Character at the elementary are rewarded with incentives. Stepping up our incentives and our SEL program frequency will be a priority. Students will be facilitating the programs under the direction of the adults.	Schools will work with all subgroups to assure they are part of the process of assisting the implementation of these programs. This will also create availability for all subgroups to access the programs.

Communicable Disease Management Plan

Please provide a link to the district’s **communicable disease management plan** that describes measures put in place to limit the spread of COVID-19 within school settings. ([OAR 581-022-2220](#)). The advised components of the plan and additional information are found on pages 20 and 21 of the [RSSL Resiliency Framework](#) and meet the ESSER process requirements of “coordination with local public health authorities.”

Link: <https://content.schoolinsites.com/api/documents/73b4b24b1d0b4fa695a7a7f123c80c73.pdf>

ARP ESSER Component	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted to ensure continuity of services	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
Coordination with local public health authority(ies) including Tribal health departments	<p>The health department meet with all districts superintendents in the county and outlined requirements for the start of the school this year. The following were direction from the heath department.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mask wearing by students and driver on the bus are mandatory. 2. Cohorting and contact logs are required for contact tracing 3. Testing is still part of the school responsibility 4. Sick student or staff stay home or be sent home. 5. Quarantine is 14 day quarantine 	<p>We continue to work with the health department on providing opportunities for student and staff to be vaccinated. The student based health center is a designated vaccination center. the health department has shared their draft equity plan with the district. The district is able to reference their equity plan when referring students and staff.</p>

Isolation Plan

Please provide a link to the district's plan to **maintain health care and space** that is appropriately supervised and adequately equipped for providing first aid, and **isolates** the sick or injured child. ([OAR 581-022-2220](#)). If planning for this space is in your communicable disease management plan for COVID-19, please provide the page number.

Link: Page 20

Continued on next page.

Mitigation Strategies

School administrators are required to **exclude staff or students from school** whom they have reason to suspect have been exposed to COVID-19. ([OAR 333-019-0010](#); [OAR 333-019-0010](#))

Please complete the table below to include the extent to which the district has adopted policies and the description of each policy for each mitigation strategy. In developing the response, please review and consider the [CDC guidance](#) and the [RSSL Resiliency Framework](#) for each mitigation strategy. Additional documents to support district and school planning are available on the [ODE Ready Schools, Safe Learners website](#).

Advised mitigation strategy	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
COVID-19 vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students if eligible	Our School Based Health Center is a vaccination site. There will be communication sent out through our social medial to help the health department message vaccination.	Schools will be able to refer parents to the health department for vaccination dates and times. Students and parents who were not able to get vaccinated will have opportunities. School personnel will support non-vaccinated individuals in contacting the health department to make arrangements..

Advised mitigation strategy	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
<p>Universal and correct wearing of face coverings</p>	<p>Students will wear mask indoors. Consistent and correct mask use by people who are not fully vaccinated is especially important indoors and in crowded settings, when physical distancing cannot be maintained.</p> <p>Outdoors student will not be required to wear mask.</p> <p>Our district will recommend wearing face coverings. Students and staff will wear face coverings on the bus and district transportation.</p>	<p>We will have face coverings available at our doors and offices for student access.</p> <p>Students will leave for outdoor activities with mask left on the desk. 6 foot distance will be used to the extent possible when transitioning to outdoors.</p>
<p>Physical distancing and cohorting</p>	<p>We will support physical distancing in all daily activities and instruction, maintaining at least 3 feet between students to the extent possible. Our schools will have signs and visuals to remind students, staff and visitors.</p>	<p>There will be contact logs and seating charts in classrooms to help pinpoint the infected persons during an outbreak. The school will help with identification of students and staff that have been exposed to an individual. Exposure will be unmasked/unvaccinated students or staff within 6 ft. for 15 minutes or more.</p>

Advised mitigation strategy	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
Ventilation and air flow	We will utilize opening of windows and doors to develop air flow within our buildings whenever possible.	We continue to look for other ventilation measures to help move air through out our buildings. Purchasing of air purifiers will begin upon plan approval.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Hand washing will be taught and encouraged. Students and staff will have access to soap and water and hand sanitizer.	Staff will teach hand washing to students at a designated time at the beginning of the school year. Proper hand-washing techniques will be discussed and demonstrated to age groups that need the demonstration to acquire the proper skill.

Advised mitigation strategy	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
Free, on-site COVID-19 diagnostic testing	The schools have signed up for the testing kits for on-site testing and have kits at the school.	Information will go home to parents regarding the opportunity to test at home.
COVID-19 screening testing	The schools will implement screening testing as prescribed by the Grant County Health Department. Guidance from Oregon department of Education will be used to implement the process.	<p>Information regarding screening testing will be available to parent and students when we learn more about how parent access enrollment information.</p> <p>Staff can sign up for screening. Information has been sent to staff regarding the screening program.</p>

Advised mitigation strategy	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
Public health communication	District administration received positive notifications any time there is a positive in the county. The press immediately disperses the announcement so our community knows the amount of spread that is occurring.	The schools are in close contact with the health department. When COVID cases are present in the school. Schools make contact with parents regarding close contact and quarantining. The district shares information through press releases and parent letters updating parents and students on school closures.
Isolation and quarantine	<p>Students who arrive at school with excludable symptoms will be held in the isolation area. Parent will be contacted and asked to pick up their child.</p> <p>All students who become ill at school with excludable symptoms will remain at school supervised by staff until parents can pick them up in the designated isolation area. Student will be provided a facial covering (if they can safely wear one). Staff should wear a facial shields/facial covering and maintain physical distancing, but never leave a child unattended. While exercising caution to maintain (ensure) safety is appropriate when working with children exhibiting symptoms, it is also critical that staff maintain sufficient</p>	<p>Staff will maintain student confidentiality as appropriate. Student will not be transported by school staff. Parent are called for pickup.</p> <p>Staff and students with known or suspected COVID-19 cannot remain at school and should return only after their symptoms resolve and they are physically ready to return to school. In no case can they return before:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the passage of 14 calendar days after exposure; and • Symptoms have been resolved for 24 hours without the use of anti-fever medications; <p>GCHD recommendations are that vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine.</p>

Accommodations for Children with Disabilities

Please describe the extent to which the district has adopted policies related to appropriate accommodation for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety protocols. Please describe any such policies.

Student with disabilities who need accommodations for protocols at school will have an IEP meeting. That IEP meeting will create the plan that will support the individuals through safe measure while at school.

Updates to this Plan

To remain in compliance with ARP ESSER requirements, school districts must regularly, but no less frequently than every six months (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), review, and as appropriate, revise its Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan.

Date Last Updated: 8-4-2021

Bret Uptmor
Superintendent



GRANT SCHOOL DISTRICT #3

401 N. Canyon City Blvd. • Canyon City, OR 97820
Phone: (541) 575-1280 • Fax: (541) 575-3614

July 30, 2021

Dear Grant School District Parents.

Our district team was finalizing our plans for the 2021-22 school year when Governor Brown announced she was directing OHA and ODE to create rules requiring masks at K-12 schools. Our preparation for the school year was predicated on us having local control of decisions impacting COVID spread in our school. I believe we can provide the safest learning environment using our data to assess the danger of COVID in our district. My position is to stand for local control of decisions impacting the health of our students. My advocacy for local control started shortly after learning the surprising turnaround from Governor Brown. Please reinforce my advocacy by making contact with your representatives and state officials.

Sen Findley Sen.LynnFindley@oregonlegislature.gov ;	Rep Owens Rep.MarkOwens@oregonlegislature.gov
Colt Gill-Oregon Department of Education colt.gill@state.or.us 503-947-5652	Pat Allen – Oregon Health Authority Patrick.Allen@state.or.us 503-945-6777
Oregon OSHA Enforcement Information: enforce.web@oregon.gov 503-378-3272 Toll free: 800-922-2689 (inside Oregon only)	Governor Brown Contact Form: https://www.oregon.gov/gov/pages/share-your-opinion.aspx 503-378-4582 Office of the Governor 900 Court Street, Suite 254 Salem, OR 97301-4047

Thank you,

Bret Uptmor, Superintendent Grant School District

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Chairman Haley Walker ■ Aaron Lieuallen ■ Kelly Stokes ■ Jake Taylor ■ Chris Labhart ■ TBD ■ Dr. Colleen Robertson



GRANT SCHOOL DISTRICT #3

401 N. Canyon City Blvd. • Canyon City, OR 97820
Phone: (541) 575-1280 • Fax: (541) 575-3614

Media Press Release

July 27, 2021

Grant School District to Welcome Students Back Full-Time

The Grant School District is prepared to welcome students, teachers and staff back to school for in-person learning this fall.

“We are so thrilled to return this year with many aspects of school looking normal,” said Bret Uptmor Public Schools Superintendent. “Safety for our students, families, teachers and staff remains of utmost importance.”

The vast majority of health and safety protocols are now *advisory*. The term advisory means school districts and public charter schools will have the option to implement them.

Grant School District, supports the ODE recommendations that vaccinations, face coverings, cohorting, ventilation and handwashing all play a role in our doors remaining open. To help mitigate the Spread of COVID the district will implement the following:

- Encouraging vaccination for those who can get it.
- Mask are recommended at school and required on busses or school transportation.
- All schools will maintain 3 ft. distancing for student to the extent possible.
- We will start our year with cohort sizes of 100 and will tighten that up if cases increase in our schools.
- We ask parent to keep their students at home if symptoms are present. Schools will send students home who are exhibiting symptoms.
- Handwashing and hand sanitizer will continue to be a part of our student’s daily routines.

For more information about how the Grant School District is keeping students, families, teachers and staff safe, visit <https://www.grantesd.k12.or.us/district-3/index.htm>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Chairman Haley Walker ■ Aaron Lieuallen ■ Kelly Stokes ■ Jake Taylor ■ Chris Labhart ■ TBD ■ Dr. Colleen Robertson



GRANT SCHOOL DISTRICT #3

401 N. Canyon City Blvd. • Canyon City, OR 97820
Phone: (541) 575-1280 • Fax: (541) 575-3614

Dear Students & Families,

We are excited to welcome students and staff back to school this fall and want to share some updates about what to expect.

School Days & Instructional Time

Grant School District will operate 4 days each week, serving all students full-time, in-person this fall. Our district will provide remote learning for students who may need to quarantine. Students who are still in need of virtual access to school, the district will continue to offer our District Virtual Academy (DVA).

Health & Safety in Our Schools

As our schools plan for the fall 2021 in-person school year, it is important to remember our communities will be living with the virus until there is widespread immunity. COVID-19 continues to change with new variants, our knowledge of mitigation efforts grows over time.

Right now, the best tools to protect ourselves and one another are vaccination for those eligible, physical distancing, face coverings, ventilation and airflow, hand hygiene, and staying home if you feel sick or you know you've been exposed to someone with COVID-19.

The Oregon Department of Education shared guidance this summer that empowers school district leaders - in partnership with local public health - to make decisions about how to implement health and safety protocols, including physical distancing and face coverings.

We want to share the health and safety protocols we will have in place in our schools, along with steps we plan to take in response to COVID-19 cases and outbreaks, should they occur in our school(s) during the 2021-22 school year.

We encourage you to review the information below and talk with your student(s) about what to expect. We want you to know it is a priority to create safe spaces where your child feels safe, cared for, and connected to the learning environment. Working together, we can harness this opportunity to rekindle joy and learning in the classrooms, auditoriums, and playgrounds.

What to Expect Fact Sheet

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Health & Safety Protocols

The vast majority of health and safety protocols are *advisory* for the 2021-22 school year. The switch to advisory means school districts and public charter schools will have the option to implement as needed.

Key measures that remain required include:

Federal

- Mask are required to be worn on all school transportation services. Students riding busses to school will be required to wear a mask.

State

- Maintaining a communicable disease plan
- Maintaining an isolation space in schools and
- Submitting a plan for operation
- Governors Order under review

GCHD

- Contact tracing and contact tracing logs
- Testing will be available in the schools
- Students with symptoms will be required to go home
- Quarantine period is 14 days

Vaccination: Our schools bring together people who are fully vaccinated and people who are not fully vaccinated. Everyone age 12 and older is eligible for a vaccine. Vaccination of 12-14 year olds requires parental or guardian consent. Vaccination of students and staff is encouraged but not required to come to school. Vaccination supports a student's access to in-person learning, sports and extracurricular activities. Fully vaccinated individuals who are exposed to COVID-19 **are not required to quarantine** unless they develop symptoms which ensures continuity of in-person instruction. When as many eligible students and staff are vaccinated as possible, our school is better able to serve students and families without interruption.

Face Coverings: Face coverings is mandatory by rules for students and staff indoors during school hours. **Face coverings are required on public transit, including school buses, for passengers and drivers until lifted by the federal government.** The CDC order for mandatory use of face coverings on public transit cannot be waived by state or local authorities. The [CDC guidance](#) is available on the CDC website.

Physical Distancing: We will support physical distancing in all daily activities and instruction, maintaining at least 3 feet between students to the extent possible. Our schools will have signs and visuals to remind students, staff and visitors.

Cohorting: Cohorting will be present in each building. When the amount of spread is low we will see less restrictions. As more cases develop in our community and schools there will be more cohorting restrictions.

Ventilation and Airflow: We will utilize opening of windows and doors to develop air flow within our buildings whenever possible.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Handwashing: Hand washing will be taught and encouraged. Students and staff will have access to soap and water and hand sanitizer.

Responding to COVID-19 Cases or Outbreaks

We want you to know it is a priority for our school district to create a learning environment where your child feels safe, cared for, and connected to peers and school staff.

When staff and students show symptoms of being ill: if the student or staff member feels ill prior to coming to school, they should stay home. If a student or staff member becomes ill at school, we will have a designated location to isolate people who have symptoms of COVID-19 from people who are not sick.

When a staff member or a student tests positive for COVID-19: our school district will work with Grant County Health Department to take next steps. This will include communicating to our school community and contacting those who may have been exposed.

CDC guidance states that people who are [fully vaccinated](#) and do not have COVID-19 symptoms do not need to quarantine or get tested after an exposure to someone with COVID-19.

We look forward to our school year starting back up and a return to normalcy. Thank you for all your support over the last 18 months.

Bret Uptmor, Superintendent
Grant School District #3
uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us
Office 541 575-1280 Ext. 3025

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Chairman Haley Walker ■ Aaron Lieuallen ■ Kelly Stokes ■ Jake Taylor ■ Chris Labhart ■ TBD ■ Dr. Colleen Robertson

Bret Uptmor

From: Bret Uptmor
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2021 11:46 AM
To: 'Rose Schaefer'
Subject: RE: Upcoming school year

Ms. Schaefer,

I am sorry the timing is not optimum. We received the ODE guidance and template on July 22 and are reviewing all aspects of making the plan. Our Board will review the plan August 3. We will not require COVID vaccinations. The federal mandate from the CDC is that students are required to wear mask on busses. We are required to collaborate with the health department. The rest of the decision are local. Superintendents are meeting with the health department tomorrow. My Team will work Wednesday and possibly Thursday and Friday making a draft plan. Your comments are important to our discussion and I will make sure I hold them close as we create the plan.

Sincerely,

Bret Uptmor, Superintendent
Grant School District #3
uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us
Office 541 575-1280 Ext. 25
Cell 208 230-4116
Fax 541 575-3614

From: Rose Schaefer [mailto:stormione.615@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2021 11:26 AM
To: Bret Uptmor <uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us>
Subject: Upcoming school year

Dear Mr. Uptmor,

My name is Rose Schaefer and I have a 7 year old going into 2nd grade. Up until this last year my son has LOVED school. He was always excited and ready to go. He hated being sick because he didn't want to miss out on learning or miss seeing his friends. I understand covid made things hard last year and people were scared. But I'm begging you, please do not require the kids to wear the masks this year. My son is refusing to go to school if he has to wear them. He faked being sick and had more meltdowns about going to school last year than I even thought possible. He was miserable and came home crying on more than one occasion.

Both my husband and I work full time and we have a baby, but we will not subject our son to another year of that. I know we aren't the only parents who feel so strongly about this issue.

We also hope you will not require the kids to have the vaccine. There is a long history of nasty vaccine reactions in my son's family and its not something we would ever risk.

When will we get to know how the school year is going to look? It's so close to time for school to start, I feel it's unfair to keep families in the dark for so long.

Thank you
Rose Schaefer

Dear Valued Parents,

Crook County School District was surprised to learn of Governor Kate Brown's mask mandate today for Oregon public schools after she announced in late June that all future decisions about COVID-19 protocols would be decided at the local level.

Since the beginning of July, our school district has served over 1,000 students in the largest summer school program in the region. Students have been in school without masks, and we've reported no outbreaks or spread of the virus. This is why I fully support the opportunity to make our own decisions based on what's happening with the virus at the local level and develop COVID safety plans with our incredible partners at the Crook County Health Department.

My goal is to allow staff and families to make their own health decisions about masks, while also fully supporting anyone who wants to wear

July 29, 2021

Sutherlin School District was shocked to learn that Governor Kate Brown has placed a new mask mandate on Oregon public schools after announcing in June that we would have local control of COVID-19 protocols. It was also clear that a "school that violates the rule will be subject to civil penalties."

Our Board of Directors and I are directly opposed to the mandate! Since late June, we have had nearly 200 students attending summer school mask free and we have seen COVID 19 cases. We fully support the opportunity to make our own local decisions based on what is happening in our own district and community. It is our belief that staff and families should be afforded the opportunity to make their own health decisions regarding masking and we will continue to support anyone who wants to wear one for their own protection. We have also committed to continue offering high quality online opportunities for students whose parents have concerns about COVID-19.

Sutherlin School District is committed to our students and our community at large. It is critical that we gain local control so that we can make decisions that are in the best interest of our students, staff and entire community.

Bret Uptmor

From: Jessica Sodorff <jessicasodorff@icloud.com>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 5:07 PM
To: Bret Uptmor
Subject: Mask concerns

I wanted to voice my concerns about if masks would be required again at school. First let me say I appreciate that you are reaching out to parents in wanting to hear their opinion. Second my 7yr old asked a few weeks ago if they were done with masks at school since we don't have to wear them at places in town. I said I believed he wouldn't have to wear one when school started again and his exact words were "yes now we can breath again!" This is what we are doing to these kids. I will pull both my children out of school if you back someone who doesn't care about our kids or our community because I will never have them feeling like they can't breath!

Thank you,
Jessica Sodorff
Parent to a 1st grader and 7th grader

Sent from my iPhone

As a dentist I have had many years of study including microbiology, biochemistry, immunology, cell biology etc. I have yearly updates in infection control for my office , including Covid-19, and deal with infection control on a daily basis. Since Covid-19 emerged Jan 2020 I have been following research as it has come out.

Intuition tells us covering our faces must be worthwhile. After all, if the virus is emitted from our noses and mouths, covering those openings has to make a big difference, right?

That gut feeling misleads us, though, because we tend to only think of the virus in terms of visible, tangible droplets masks can absorb. Indeed, the initial scientific consensus held that Covid-19 was exclusively transmitted [by droplets](#), prompting the emphasis on distancing six feet from each other—room enough for gravity to pull those droplets out of the air.

That exclusive-droplet-transmission consensus proved wrong. We now know Covid-19 is spread to a great extent via aerosols, particles so small they can easily float along in the air, traveling well beyond six feet. Even that description fails to convey how [unfathomably small](#) Covid-19 viral particles actually are—and why masks are a mismatch.

These particles are as little as 20 [nanometers](#). That means the " gaps in blue surgical mask material are up to 1,000 times" larger than a Covid-19 viral particle.

Gaps in typical cloth masks can be *5,000 times* the size...to say nothing of all that air that's merely redirected past masks' edges when we exhale.

Clearly these masks are ineffective.

If you did however still require a mask the only reliably effective, but not perfect, mask against the Corona virus and bacteria is a fitted, N95 mask worn with the proper techniques like that used by nurses and surgeons. This mask would provide about 8 hours of protection and then need to be replaced at the cost of around 15-20 dollars per month per person. Depending on availability which does fluctuate.

Unfortunately, even highly trained healthcare professionals have difficulty properly using these masks.

For these reasons alone you should refuse to impose a mask mandate on our children. But I have more reasons.

We now know that children ages 0-18 overwhelmingly have mild symptoms, if any, and are at a higher risk of poor outcomes from the seasonal flu than CV. It is also unfair to make a child with natural immunity, one that has recovered from Covid-19, wear a mask...they are not a vector. What message does that send?

Prolonged Mask usage by children is not only ineffective, it is harmful.

Children are at risk for a laundry list of challenges from mask mandates including stress, Anxiety, and impaired social skills and cognitive development .Psychology today, among others, warns that "after universal masking of children is long gone, we will be dealing with the unintended consequences for a

long time.”

In closing, Last week the CDC released the following statement.

Given new evidence on the B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant, CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. Children should return to full-time in-person learning in the fall with layered prevention strategies in place.

Also,

Oregon Health authority recommends mask wearing.

This guidance refers to substantial or high-risk counties. We are currently at moderate. And are rural

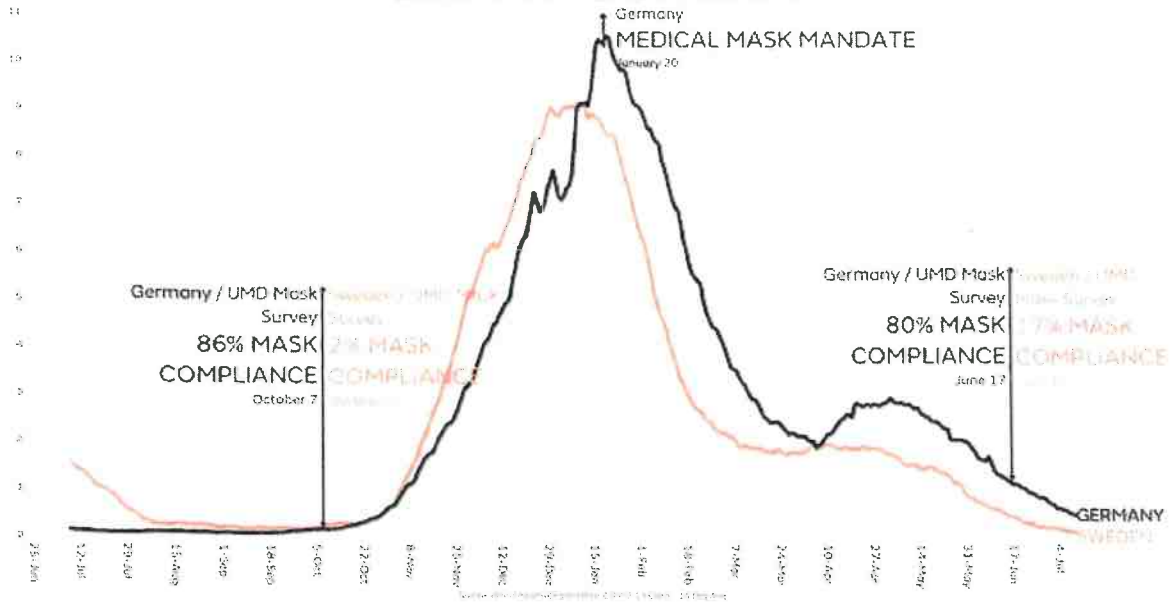
None of the CDC guidelines point to a mask *mandate* in schools. Merely Recommendation.

Please do not use CDC as primary guidance. CDC guidance is out of step with research concerning mask effectiveness and risk to children. The vaccines and natural immunity have proven to give robust protection against Covid-19. Masks have not.

Over 100 years of virology informs us, like it or not, that this virus is going to do what it is going to do. A mask is not going to stand in its way. And yet our emotional and political attachment to masks represents a powerful barrier to an intellectually honest evaluation of their effectiveness. I implore you not to mandate mask wearing because you "feel" you have to do something. You don't. A mask mandate in school would be useless in protecting children from the virus and only interfere with their education and development by distancing them from their peers and teachers.

If you feel like you must follow CDC or Oregon Health Authority guidelines, please consider following their guidance to the letter and "Recommend" mask wearing since neither of these agencies have proposed a mandate.

DAILY NEW DEATHS PER 1M GERMANY & SWEDEN



Bret Uptmor

From: Jenna H <hendriksenjenna@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 1, 2021 10:33 PM
To: Bret Uptmor
Subject: Masking Mandates

Good Afternoon, Bret,

I am writing this email in response to your letter written on 7/30/2021.

I would like to advocate that we have local control of OUR school district, and the right to make decisions as individuals.

I have two children that attend Grant School District 3. If we go into the 2021-2022 school year wearing masks, and our right to make that decision is taken away from us, then I will pull my children from Grant School District and seek their education elsewhere.

Please realize that masks are harmful to children not only physically, but also emotionally. They are also scientifically proven to carry harmful pathogens and bacteria. They stunt education in children learning the critical pieces of learning and social interactions by hiding detrimental cues.

Masks are not consistence with current regulations, and are not evidence based.

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns. I look forward to discussing further with you at the school board meeting.

Jenna Hendriksen

Bret Uptmor

From: Kaylee Lemcke <kaylee.rachelle@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2021 5:20 PM
To: Bret Uptmor
Subject: Masks

Hello,

My son will be starting Kindergarten this coming school year, 2021-2022 and my husband and I dont want out child to attend public school if he is forced to wear a mask. My husband and I are planning on attending the school board meeting on Aug. 3rd.

Thank you for your stance on this

Kaylee

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Bret Uptmor

From: Aliciana Archibald <aliciearchibald@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2021 12:04 PM
To: Sen.LynnFindley@oregonlegislature.gov; Rep.MarkOwens@oregonlegislature.gov; colt.gill@state.or.us; Patrick.Allen@state.or.us; Bret Uptmor
Subject: COVID-19 Restrictions in Schools

Good afternoon,

My name is Alici Archibald, and I am an incoming sophomore at Grant Union Jr/Sr High School. I am writing to you today because I support my Superintendent Bret Uptmor in making decisions regarding to COVID-19 in schools. I hope that by sharing my input and my experiences with you, I can show that our local school district can make the best decisions for our students regarding their health and safety.

My first reason for holding this position is that I feel that smaller counties such as ours are often overlooked when some of these state decisions are made. My school was lucky enough to return in person in the fall last year, due to the fact that between March and August, our county had only had 8 coronavirus cases total. Our first real "spike" was early November when 21 cases were recorded in one day. At this point, our school made the local decision to close down for a few weeks. Our 7-day average has stayed under 5 cases the entire summer. As you can see, our small town has had a very different experience than the rest of Oregon when it comes to COVID. I think that for many Grant County residents, it feels like the pandemic is over and that COVID is not a threat to our health and safety. This is probably very different from other counties in Oregon, further underlining the fact that different decisions should be made according to different circumstances. Our local administration knows first hand what is happening in our county, making them the best people to make these decisions for us.

I would also like to question the decision-making of Governor Brown. I would like to see the data and facts and be assured that these mandates that she has set will protect us. I would like to know why the length for social distancing has been cut in half. Does 3 ft really protect us from getting sick? I would also like to know how effective masks are in preventing this disease. I can assure you that masks have never been worn properly within the school. Masks are pulled under the nose and mouth, and adjusted in ways that help students to breathe easier. Some masks that are worn are not effective either. I have seen neck gaiters, bandannas, and masks that are unable to stay up on someone's face. Cloth masks are not washed regularly, paper masks are reused for weeks, and masks are shared between students. These practices are not protective at all. Also, if these things really protect us, why are we allowed to take off our masks to eat together? Why can I sit 2 ft away from people outside of my cohort while we talk and eat lunch? Why are we jam-packed into the lunch line for 15-20 min at a time? Unless there is evidence that all of these restrictions truly protect us from COVID-19, I question why we are asked to do these things.

I would also like to address the negative impact these rules and guidelines have had on my academics. I am very soft-spoken and have a hard time speaking up at times. When I wear a mask, I am unable to properly communicate with my teachers and my peers because they cannot hear me, or they are unaware that I am speaking. I am constantly asked to repeat myself and to speak up, which makes it hard for me to want to participate. Cohorts are another thing that I have struggled with. I took 3 classes this year that required me to make accommodations to my schedule. I was placed in a math class where I was given the textbook and assignments and told to teach myself the content while my teacher taught another class. My teacher was great at helping me, and I did not have a hard time learning the content, but I was still missing out on a classroom experience. I also opted to take two advanced classes in science and history, which I was told I could take when I had signed up for my classes. Because of cohorts, I could take these online, and so I did for a semester. The system that I took these classes on was horrible. I had such a hard time communicating with my teachers on it, and I learned very little. I have heard every single teacher of mine complain about this system, and the curriculums it provided were very different from the ones taught in the classroom, not to mention more

complex. Students need to be able to freely take classes that will help them learn as much as they can. Some of these mandates that were set have severely impacted my academic experience, which is why I think our local school system should be in charge of decision making.

I hope that my viewpoint will be taken into consideration in this decision, as it reflects the viewpoint of many of my fellow classmates and teachers. I strongly support Superintendent Uptmor and Principal Gerry's ability to make the most beneficial decisions for our county and school. Thank you for taking the time to read my email.

Sincerely,

Alici Archibald

Bret Uptmor

From: Kelley McDaniel
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2021 11:19 AM
To: Bret Uptmor
Subject: Mask announcement

Mr. Uptmor, Thank you for the fight to not lose your local control. I feel super strongly on this mask business. I have written a letter to all of the emails you listed and have encouraged others to as well. I can tell you my own input as a parent and as an employee. I won't send my kid to school in a mask. I also was not going to wear one and see those kids wear them. I was going to resign and not come back this year. I don't quit jobs lightly. I'm a longtimer! I work at school because I love all the kids like my own and I truly think its wrong to put kids in masks. If a family is concerned and they want their child to wear a mask then I fully believe they should be able to. They should have that right. The same as I should have the right to not. I would've not come back this year without your letter. I will do my part to fight for the power to be put back in our district. But if someone were to ask me is it worth it to send your kid to our school in a mask all day. I'll say no. What it was like and what the kids lost that I watched every day because of masks and social distancing was enormous. What my own kid is losing socially is huge. But I won't ask him to sit through school and go to the office multiple times a day for not wearing a mask on his nose. When I as an adult can't wear one on my nose. It also goes against what I've taught my family about standing up for what you believe in. For now I'm going to write letters and prod others to as well. But you need to know that I'm on the fence. So again thank you for that parent letter that shows that you will fight for our district. It was good to see. Kelley

Bret Uptmor

From: Heather Rookstool <mrzrookie85@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 9:29 AM
To: Bret Uptmor; Haley Walker
Subject: No mask ☹

This is the email I sent to all the listed emails for ODE and state representative!
I cannot make the meeting but I wanted to send this! I DO NOT WANT KIDS IN MASK!!!!

I have kids in Grant County school district 3. I support them going back to school not in mask!!! I think that it should be the county's decision not the states per our Covid # and how our county is doing!

Our government in Salem has never even been to John day to see how we are handling this pandemic and we work well together and should have the power for our own rights!!!

Thank you
Heather Rookstool

Misty Palmer, RDH

> On Jul 30, 2021, at 7:55 AM, Bret Uptmor <uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us> wrote:

>
> Good morning Misty,
>
> The news struck me by surprise yesterday. I have already contacted our representatives. I would ask that you also make contact with all the decision makers outside of our local control letting them know your position on mask and why. There contact information is below. I have a meeting with ODE and Superintendents Monday and I hope I will get more details. Your email did not have an **attachment**. Could you send the attachment?

>
> Sen Findley Sen.LynnFindley@oregonlegislature.gov ;
> Rep Owens Rep.MarkOwens@oregonlegislature.gov
>
> Governor Brown
> Contact Form: <https://www.oregon.gov/gov/pages/share-your-opinion.aspx>

> 503-378-4582

>
> Office of the Governor
> 900 Court Street, Suite 254
> Salem, OR 97301-4047

>
> Pat Allen - Oregon Health Authority
> Patrick.Allen@state.or.us
> 503-945-6777

>
> Oregon OSHA Enforcement Information:
> enforce.web@oregon.gov
> 503-378-3272
> Toll free: 800-922-2689 (inside Oregon only)

>
> Colt Gill-Oregon Department of Education
> colt.gill@state.or.us
> 503-947-5652

>
> Bret Uptmor, Superintendent
> Grant School District #3
> uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us
> Office 541 575-1280 Ext. 25
> Cell 208 230-4116
> Fax 541 575-3614

>
>
>
> -----Original Message-----

> From: Misty Palmer [<mailto:mistympalmer@icloud.com>]
> Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 7:42 AM
> To: Bret Uptmor <uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us>
> Subject: Board meeting

>
> Thank you Bret for the board meeting info. I understand you have a very difficult job when it comes to the ever changing recommendations and mandates regarding masks from the state. As a parent, I ask you to stand up and support making these decisions at a local level. Since the new mandate was made yesterday to require masking in K-12 schools, two other districts have come out with messages supporting a parents and staff opportunity to make their own health decisions regarding masking (attached). I ask you to please fight for our right to choose for our children.

> If masking is mandated, I will be asking for for the case studies that support this mandate and the efficacy of masking. Case studies that were done in schools, on children under 15. Of the case studies on the CDC website, I have yet to see one done in a school.
> Please continue to look after the best interest of our children and maintain control at a local level. I appreciate your time and help.

- >
- >
- > Misty Palmer, RDH

Bret Uptmor

From: jrmoore0729 <jrmoore0729@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 7:38 AM
To: Bret Uptmor
Subject: RE: School Board meeting

Awesome! Yes, been sending emails! Thank you for fighting this.

See you Tuesday,
Jessica Moore

Sent from my Verizon. Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Bret Uptmor <uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us>
Date: 7/30/21 7:23 AM (GMT-08:00)
To: jrmoore0729 <jrmoore0729@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: School Board meeting

Good morning Jessica,

The news struck me by surprise yesterday. At the board meeting the agenda is about the plan. Mask are in the plan. It will be discussed. I have a meeting with ODE and Superintendents Monday and I hope I will get more details. Please contact representatives Owens and Findley as well as ODE Colt Gill, OHA Pat Allen, OSHA and governor Browns office. Hearing your voice will help.

Sen Findley Sen.LynnFindley@oregonlegislature.gov ;

Rep Owens Rep.MarkOwens@oregonlegislature.gov

Governor Brown

Contact Form: <https://www.oregon.gov/gov/pages/share-your-opinion.aspx>

503-378-4582

Office of the Governor
900 Court Street, Suite 254
Salem, OR 97301-4047

Pat Allen – Oregon Health Authority

Patrick.Allen@state.or.us

503-945-6777

Oregon OSHA Enforcement Information:

enforce.web@oregon.gov

503-378-3272

Toll free: 800-922-2689 (inside Oregon only)

Colt Gill-Oregon Department of Education

colt.gill@state.or.us

503-947-5652

Bret Uptmor, Superintendent

Grant School District #3

uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us

Office 541 575-1280 Ext. 25

Cell 208 230-4116

Fax 541 575-3614

From: jrmoore0729 [mailto:jrmoore0729@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 7:44 PM
To: Bret Uptmor <uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us>
Subject: School Board meeting

Bret,

Can I please be put on the agenda for the school board meeting Tuesday to discuss, as I'm sure you guessed...masks

Thanks so much,

Jessica Moore

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Bret Uptmor

From: Jessa Bigsby
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 7:40 AM
To: Bret Uptmor
Cc: Ryan Gerry
Subject: Masks
Attachments: 7C47F255-C3AA-4AA5-982E-D1D6DF05621C.jpeg; 53368268-828A-4129-AC00-91203C83D55D.jpeg

Hello,

I wanted to make sure you guys have seen the stance that local districts have made about the right to choose whether or not to wear a mask. Crook County superintendent has bravely come out against forcing students or staff to wear masks and has posted a publication about it. I will attach it so you can read for yourselves. Sutherlin School District is another district already making a stand. I hope we follow suit. Masks are not what's best for anyone. I need to confirm where the school board meeting will be Tuesday. I have heard two different locations. I think there will be quite a few people hoping to be heard at that meeting.

I encourage our district to follow what Crook County is doing. It's the right thing to do.

Thank you!

Jessa Bigsby
Mathematics Teacher
Grant Union High School

Tonya Rosebrook and Sherrin Smith shared a photo.



Crook County School District

14h · 🌐

Superintendent Dr. Sara Johnson to Push for Local Control and Decision-Making Regarding Masks and COVID-19 Protocols in Crook County Schools

Dear Valued Parents,

Crook County School District was surprised to learn of Governor Kate Brown’s mask mandate today for Oregon public schools after she announced in late June that all future decisions about COVID-19 protocols would be decided at the local level.

Since the beginning of July, our school district has served over 1,000 students in the largest summer school program in the region. Students have been in school without masks, and we’ve reported no outbreaks or spread of the virus. This is why I fully support the opportunity to make our own decisions based on what’s happening with the virus at the local level and develop COVID-19 safety plans with our incredible partners at the Crook County Health Department.

My goal is to allow staff and families to make their own health decisions about masks, while also fully supporting anyone who wants to wear one for their own protection. We also offer two robust online programs, Crook County Online Option & Grizzly Mountain HomeLink, for families who may have concerns about COVID-19.

I’m determined to retain local control and decision-



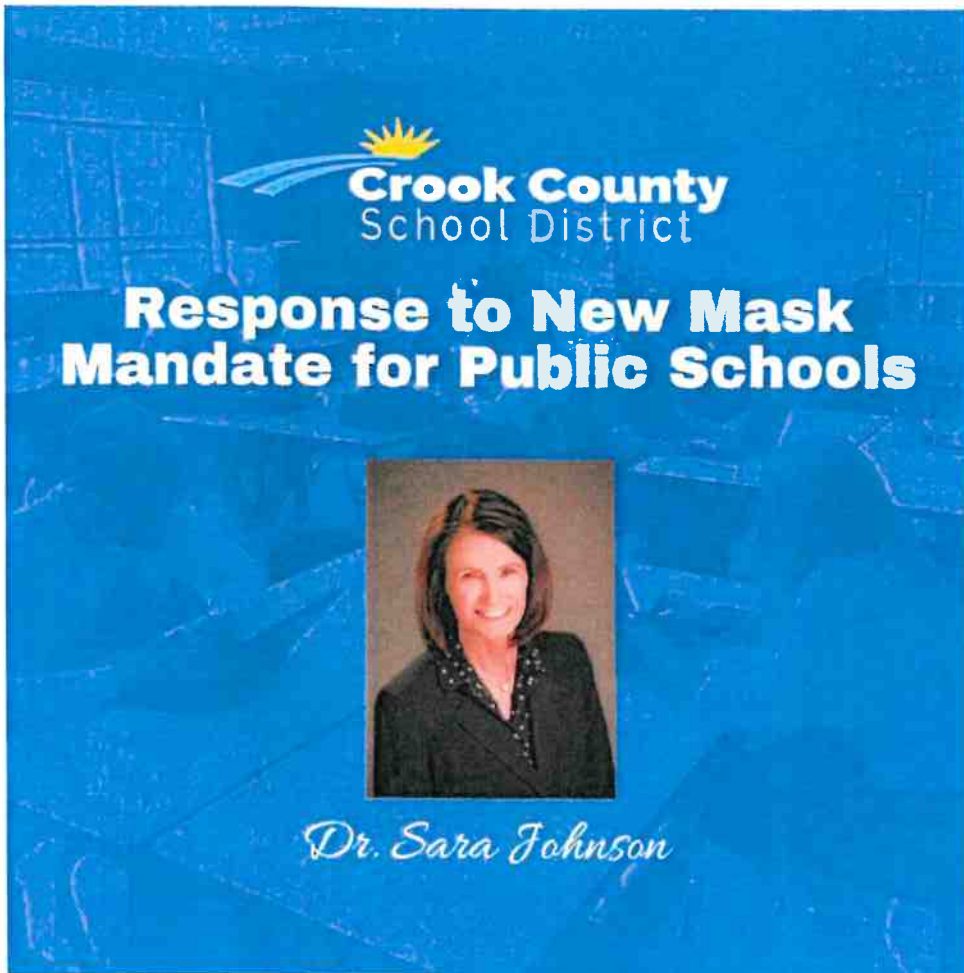
Department.

My goal is to allow staff and families to make their own health decisions about masks, while also fully supporting anyone who wants to wear one for their own protection. We also offer two robust online programs, Crook County Online Option & Grizzly Mountain HomeLink, for families who may have concerns about COVID-19.

I'm determined to retain local control and decision-making that's in the best interest of our community and Crook County School District.

Warm Regards,

Dr. Sara E. Johnson, Superintendent
Crook County School District



Bret Uptmor

From: Cayce Stacy <Stacy.Cayce@oregonlegislature.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 11:29 AM
To: Bret Uptmor
Subject: RE: Maintaining Continuity of Learning By Requiring Face Coverings In All Schools

Dear Superintendent Upmore,

Thank you for contacting us, we share in the frustration and understand the challenges the Governor's most recent mask-mandate regarding K-12 schools is causing. Senator Findley and Rep. Owens will be convening a phone call/Zoom **meeting** early next week for the purpose of hearing from you, learning the impacts this has on your districts, and understanding your perspective and position on these changes. As soon as we have the date and time, we will provide that and invite you and any others you feel should participate.

Thank you,



Stacy Cayce | Legislative Aide

Office of Representative Mark Owens
Oregon State Legislature, House District 60
900 Court Street, NE H-475, Salem OR, 97301
(503) 986-1460 (Salem office)
rep.markowens@oregonlegislature.gov
oregonlegislature.gov/owens

From: Bret Uptmor <uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 8:45 AM
To: Rep Owens <Rep.MarkOwens@oregonlegislature.gov>; Sen Findley <Sen.LynnFindley@oregonlegislature.gov>; Cayce Stacy <Stacy.Cayce@oregonlegislature.gov>
Subject: RE: Maintaining Continuity of Learning By Requiring Face Coverings In All Schools

Representative Owens and Senator Findley,

I hope some **details** come out soon. I believe local control and mask are the heated topic in our community. I think it would be fair to say I have a board that half would not hesitate to say we are going to make our plan using local control not top down political antics. We have a **spread** going on and the only action taking place to resolve it is masking students. We don't start school for three weeks. Makes no sense. We will be in an all-out pandemic in three weeks. Sorry no science to back that claim. I would like to know if all superintendents in your districts feel the same as Sutherlin and Crook County.

Bret Uptmor

From: Bret Uptmor
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 8:46 AM
To: 'Rep Owens'; Sen Findley; Cayce Stacy
Subject: RE: Maintaining Continuity of Learning By Requiring Face Coverings In All Schools
Attachments: 7C47F255-C3AA-4AA5-982E-D1D6DF05621C.JPEG; 53368268-828A-4129-AC00-91203C83D55D.JPEG

Representative Owens and Senator Findley,

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Fax 541 575-3614

From: Rep Owens [mailto:Rep.MarkOwens@oregonlegislature.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 3:16 PM
To: Bret Uptmor <uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us>; Sen Findley <Sen.LynnFindley@oregonlegislature.gov>; Cayce Stacy <Stacy.Cayce@oregonlegislature.gov>
Subject: Re: Maintaining Continuity of Learning By Requiring Face Coverings In All Schools

Bret,

Thank you for reaching out, Senator Findley and I have talk to figure out the best approach. We need to be able to do something besides just posture.

Let's see how this plays out for a couple days. We might suggest a group call with our administrators like what we did last year, so that we can collectively agree on a path.

Mark Owens
HD 60 State Representative
Rep.MarkOwens@Oregonlegisalature.gov

From: Bret Uptmor <uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us>
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 12:08:19 PM
To: Sen Findley <Sen.LynnFindley@oregonlegislature.gov>; Rep Owens <Rep.MarkOwens@oregonlegislature.gov>
Subject: FW: Maintaining Continuity of Learning By Requiring Face Coverings In All Schools

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the Legislature. Use caution clicking any links or attachments.

Senator Findley and Representative Owens,

I am so displeased with this turn of events. We have told parents we are not mandating mask and this announcement comes out. We have had very few cases this summer and cases are not of concern to our school at this point. I am afraid this rule will be tied to the federal funding and we will not see a dime unless we comply with the rule. I implore you to make contact with the governor and try to stop her from making another sweeping rule that does not fit each county.

Respectfully,

Bret Uptmor, Superintendent
Grant School District #3
uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us
Office 541 575-1280 Ext. 25
Cell 208 230-4116
Fax 541 575-3614

From: Oregon Department of Education [<mailto:ode@public.govdelivery.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 11:41 AM
To: Bret Uptmor <uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us>
Subject: Maintaining Continuity of Learning By Requiring Face Coverings In All Schools

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Dear Oregon School and District Leaders:

Thank you for your **steady** partnership as we navigate the challenges and shifts in preparation for next school year.

Today [Governor Brown](#) directed the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to **create a rule requiring face coverings in all indoor school settings, both public and private, for all individuals two years and older, including all students, staff, contractors, volunteers and visitors.** This decision is in response to the sharp uptick in the spread of COVID-19 in Oregon and the emergence of the highly transmissible Delta variant of COVID-19.

This rule will take effect upon adoption. Summer school and other summer programming students and staff will also be required to wear face coverings when the rule is instituted.

Maintaining Continuity of Learning By Maintaining Health And Safety

Universal and correct use of face coverings keeps kids learning in person, which we all agree is best for students. Two of the most important tools the state has to control COVID-19 are vaccination and face covering. However, currently children under the age of 12 are not eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccines authorized for emergency use. In order to protect students under age 12, individuals who are not vaccinated, and those with underlying health conditions that make them more susceptible to complications from COVID-19, as well as to minimize the disruption of student education in schools because of

exposure to a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, requiring universal use of face coverings inside schools is necessary.

The rule will include include provisions for:

- Eating or drinking.
- Playing a musical instrument that requires using the mouth.
- Swimming or other water sports.
- Engaging in a sport in which wearing a mask could be a strangulation hazard such as gymnastics or wrestling.
- Nothing in the rule is intended to prohibit a school from complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Rehabilitation Act, or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
- A school that violates the rule will be subject to civil penalties.

The [Ready Schools, Safe Learners \(RSSL\) Resiliency Framework](#) will be updated in the next few days to reflect this change.

I realize this is a significant shift in direction. The vast majority of the recommendations in the [RSSL Resiliency Framework](#) remain advisory and in control of local decision makers. It is noted within the framework, "*Changes in the amount of community transmission of COVID-19, the severity of illness associated with new variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19, or the availability of vaccination for children younger than 12 years old may warrant changes to the state's recovery efforts during the school year. The Resiliency Framework will be updated to reflect any changes...ODE and OHA will continue to monitor guidance updates from the CDC, and will continue to align this recommendation framework as needed.*" It is imperative that we remain nimble as state and local partners to address the impacts of the global pandemic.

I understand this update may bring questions. Our hope is to provide you with the assistance you need to implement this new requirement with fidelity. Please contact ODE at ODE.COVID19@ode.state.or.us with any questions.



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This email was sent to uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us using GovDelivery Communications Cloud, on behalf of Oregon Department of Education • 255 Capitol Street NE • Salem, OR 97310



Bret Uptmor

From: Bret Uptmor
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 10:44 AM
To: 'GILL Colt * ODE'
Cc: Haley Walker
Subject: Governors announcement

Colt,

I have reached a point of total frustration. I am working to get our schools up and running. All summer long parents have been asking about our plans. I have repeatedly said we have local control and when the guidance comes out we will build the plan using local control and input they have given me. In our area mask have been a source of contention for a year. Local control meant we can decide what is best for our community regarding the health of our students. The state trust me with that responsibility every day. I have closed schools for flooding, boiler outages, electrical outages, snow and school illness. Governor Browns announcement yesterday is flawed. I am watching our COVID cases rise on a daily rate. There has been no mitigation strategy to begin stopping that uptick. The only solution is to mask student who will not be in the building for another 3-4 weeks. District have demonstrated over and over there is less likelihood of spread in schools. When we do see schools with spread we close them down. I know you will be talking Monday regarding this topic. I ask that ODE and OHA support the governor requirement to make administrative rule but to make that rule locally controlled.

Bret Uptmor, Superintendent
Grant School District #3
uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us
Office 541 575-1280 Ext. 25
Cell 208 230-4116
Fax 541 575-3614

Bret Uptmor

From: Brandon Haberly
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 1:00 PM
To: Laura Thomas
Cc: Casey Hallgarth; Bret Uptmor
Subject: FW: Student Handbook Question

Laura,

Here is what OSBA told me today. I will cc Bret and Casey. It would be nice if our county's superintendents all took similar positions together. My board chair has requested an update Monday evening after the off the record meeting. Thoughts anyone?

-Brandon

From: Callen Sterling <csterling@osba.org>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 11:00 AM
To: Brandon Haberly <haberlyb@grantessd.k12.or.us>
Subject: RE: Student Handbook Question

Hi Brandon,

You are not alone in asking this question. When it comes to potential cost for the District, it's important to keep in mind that there are limitations to your district's COVID-19 liability protection.

While HB 4402 (legislation passed during the emergency session in 2020) does provide districts with limited liability protections for COVID-19 related claims, in order to ensure the maximum protection possible under HB 4402, the District *must* be in compliance with all current "COVID-19 Emergency Rules," including guidance issued by ODE and OHA. So, what does this mean? It means that your District could be at risk of losing protections of HB 4402 if it were to open for in-person instruction and *not* be in compliance with ODE or OHA advisory or mandatory guidance.

Additionally, it's important to keep in mind that while PACE liability coverage provides for limited communicable disease defense costs, it *excludes* actual damages that relates to or results from any alleged or actual transmission of communicable disease, including COVID-19. Additionally, PACE's communicable disease defense coverage is capped at \$50,000 per member (i.e., District).

With all this said, I believe there is going to be a state-wide superintendent's Zoom meeting on Monday, during which I believe they are going to address questions about PACE liability coverage, the mask mandate, and issues around compliance vs. non-compliance.

We are also in the process of updating our [FAQ website](#). If you don't already, I encourage you to have this page bookmarked – we update this website frequently, and we often include links to additional resources.

And of course, if you have any other question, please let me know and I'd be happy to discuss.

Thanks,

Callen Sarah Sterling
Attorney
Oregon School Boards Association
1201 Court St. NE, Suite 400

Bret Uptmor

From: Cayce Stacy <Stacy.Cayce@oregonlegislature.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 11:29 AM
To: Bret Uptmor
Subject: RE: Maintaining Continuity of Learning By Requiring Face Coverings In All Schools

Dear Superintendent Uptmor,

Thank you for contacting us, we share in the frustration and understand the challenges the Governor's most recent mask-mandate regarding K-12 schools is causing. Senator Findley and Rep. Owens will be convening a phone call/Zoom meeting early next week for the purpose of hearing from you, learning the impacts this has on your districts, and understanding your perspective and position on these changes. As soon as we have the date and time, we will provide that and invite you and any others you feel should participate.

Thank you,



Stacy Cayce | Legislative Aide

Office of Representative Mark Owens
Oregon State Legislature, House District 60
900 Court Street, NE H-475, Salem OR, 97301
(503) 986-1460 (Salem office)
rep.markowens@oregonlegislature.gov
oregonlegislature.gov/owens

From: Bret Uptmor <uptmorb@granted.k12.or.us>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 8:45 AM
To: Rep Owens <Rep.MarkOwens@oregonlegislature.gov>; Sen Findley <Sen.LynnFindley@oregonlegislature.gov>; Cayce Stacy <Stacy.Cayce@oregonlegislature.gov>
Subject: RE: Maintaining Continuity of Learning By Requiring Face Coverings In All Schools

Representative Owens and Senator Findley,

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Bret Uptmor

From: GILL Colt * ODE <colt.gill@ode.state.or.us>
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2021 8:25 AM
To: Bret Uptmor
Subject: RE: Governors announcement

Hey Bret-

I get the frustration. The continuous changes are challenging as is the shift from local control. As we released the guidance we noted, "Changes in the amount of community transmission of COVID-19, the severity of illness associated with new variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19, or the availability of vaccination for children younger than 12 years old may warrant changes to the state's recovery efforts during the school year." Sadly, this is that moment. The Delta variant has increased rapidly in recent weeks and is now estimated to account for more than 80% of new cases in Oregon.

You have named a couple of the issues:

- We will be bringing students together in a close setting indoors. Some of them are likely to be carrying the virus. This variant needs less than 15 minutes of close contact to spread.
- Schools have proven to be a safe place and able mitigate the spread, but only when multiple mitigation protocols are in place. The most critical of those is face coverings, then the others like airflow, physical distancing, and handwashing help support.
- We don't want to send individuals home or close schools we want our kids in school for in-person learning. The masks rule is being pushed to support continuity of learning.

The rule will be created by OHA. It will be a universal statewide requirement as requested by the Governor and as is in place in Washington and California. It will be reviewed at least monthly with the hopes of curbing this current uptick and going back to local control on this mitigation effort as the others are currently.

I hope this info helps. I know it is not what you were looking for and I know implementation will be beyond difficult. IF there are other things or other information I can provide that will help, please let me know.

Thanks,
Colt

From: Bret Uptmor <uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 10:43 AM
To: GILL Colt * ODE <colt.gill@ode.state.or.us>
Cc: Haley Walker <walkerhaley57@gmail.com>
Subject: Governors announcement

Colt,

I have reached a point of total frustration. I am working to get our schools up and running. All summer long parents have been asking about our plans. I have repeatedly said we have local control and when the guidance comes out we will build the plan using local control and input they have given me. In our area mask have been a source of contention for a year. Local control meant we can decide what is best for our community regarding the health of our students. The state trust me with that responsibility every day. I have closed schools for flooding, boiler outages, electrical outages, snow and school illness. Governor Browns

announcement yesterday is flawed. I am watching our COVID cases rise on a daily rate. There has been no mitigation strategy to begin stopping that uptick. The only solution is to mask student who will not be in the building for another 3-4 weeks. District have demonstrated over and over there is less likelihood of spread in schools. When we do see schools with spread we close them down. I know you will be talking Monday regarding this topic. I ask that ODE and OHA support the governor requirement to make administrative rule but to make that rule locally controlled.

Bret Uptmor, Superintendent
Grant School District #3
uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us
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Heidi Hallgarth

From: Haley Walker <walkerhaley57@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 10:41 AM
To: Heidi Hallgarth
Subject: Fwd: Grant School District #3 Board of Directors Request regarding local control
Attachments: GSD#3 COVID-19 local decision.pdf

Begin forwarded message:

From: Haley Walker <walkerhaley57@gmail.com>
Date: August 3, 2021 at 7:55:39 AM PDT
To: Sen.LynnFindley@oregonlegislature.gov, Rep.MarkOwens@oregonlegislature.gov
Cc: uptmorb@grantesd.k12.or.us
Subject: Grant School District #3 Board of Directors Request regarding local control

Senator Findley and Representative Owens,

Attached is a letter on behalf of the Grant School District #3 Board of Directors requesting representation and advocacy to the State regarding local control for decision making, in particular related to the recent mask rule requested by our Governor. We have several parameters used to protect our staff and students, and masks are just one component of our protection protocol. We know our community best, constantly work with our local health authority, and believe now is the time to pushback against the state government overreach recently demonstrated by taking away local decision making related to masks for all K-12 schools in Oregon.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information, have questions, or need any assistance on this matter or any others that directly impact our staff and students.

Respectfully,
--Haley Walker
Grant School District #3, Board Chairperson
530.567.5987



GRANT SCHOOL DISTRICT #3

401 N. Canyon City Blvd. • Canyon City, OR 97820
Phone: (541) 575-1280 • Fax: (541) 575-3614

On behalf of Grant School District #3 Board of Directors we are requesting COVID-19 requirements be returned to the county, local health authority level.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic there have been many changes in regard to restrictions, regulations, requirements, and mandates and this creates enormous confusion for our students, parents, and school staff. When the decision was made to have school districts consult with their local health authority for requirements this drastically reduced the confusion in our small community. While we are large geographically we remain exceptionally connected in Grant County, and this creates a level of trust in our community leaders including our local health authority. They are informed and we trust they have our health and safety as their number one priority. The local health authority leaders have constant communication with the school districts, and our school district makes decisions based on the best interest of our staff and students in conjunction with local health authority consultations.

While we respect and admire the concern for our staff and students and the desire to protect and keep them safe from COVID-19 and other communicable diseases, we sincerely believe the one size fits all approach that applies to all K-12 schools is not in the best interest of our school district and we implore for local control and a revision to the direction as there are drastically different variables that apply to each region, county, and school district.

Thank you for considering our request, and we look forward to continuing to provide a safe, secure, and rigorous learning environment.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Haley Walker".

--Haley Walker
Grant School District #3, Board Chairperson
walkerhaley57@gmail.com
530.567.5987

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Chairman Haley Walker ■ Chris Labhart ■ Aaron Lieuallen ■ Dr. Colleen Robertson ■ Kelly Stokes ■ Jake Taylor