

FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #57

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"Falls City School District provides well-rounded opportunities for students to become productive, positive citizens and life-long learners"

Art Houghtaling Superintendent K-8Principal **Micke Kidd** High School Principal

Dear Mountaineer Families.

While we know this is the best decision for the health of everyone in our schools, our communities and our state, it is still a very unsettling feeling knowing school will be closed until April 29. There are many unknowns.

Right now, we know that our teachers and staff are charged with developing a plan to serve you and your children in various ways.

First, we will continue to provide grab-and-go breakfast and lunch bags every Monday-Friday (including during spring break) from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Falls City Community Center. We will also continue to deliver food to those with whom we have established delivery. We will do this until the closure is complete.

Second, we will be providing learning support for your children. Right now, Oregon Department of Education (ODE) recommends that "districts encourage students and families to stay engaged in informal or supplemental learning by creatively utilizing online and offline resources." What this looks like is being worked out and we will be reaching out to you again the week after spring break with more details. Many of the teachers are already reaching out to you via Facebook, Remind, e-mail, USPS mail, and more. Please know, we want to hear from you!

Finally, seniors and their parents are particularly concerned right now. And rightfully so. Their worlds have been upended with all of the traditional senior experiences slipping away. We want to assure you that we are prioritizing plans to help seniors reach graduation. Next week, ODE will provide specific guidance about how to help you meet graduation requirements. Senior year can be stressful in the best circumstances, and we are all working to eliminate any unnecessary stress in this unprecedented situation. Also please know we will do everything in our power to celebrate graduation in the most "normal" way possible.

Right now, we have as many unanswered questions as you do. This link is a continuously updated place for ODE to inform the school district as well as parents (https://www.oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/healthsafety/Pages/COVID-19-FAQ.aspx). If you have other questions, please ask us. We are trying to communicate but it seems once we send something out, the situation changes. We appreciate the grace our school community has shown as we navigate these difficult times.

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