

March 13, 2020

Dear Oregon Trail Families,

All Oregon Trail schools are closed effective Monday, March 16 through Tuesday, March 31. Gov. Brown announced the order late Thursday night as the number of positive cases of COVID-19 in Oregon continues to rise.

We will continue to provide updated information through our normal messaging systems as it becomes available. Keep an eye on our website at: oregontrailschools.com/COVID-19.

Given that this is the last day our students will be with us for the rest of the month, please remind your child to take home any supplies or personal belongings they may need during this closure.

Thank you for your support as we all work together to do what is best for our students, staff and community.

Sincerely,
Superintendent Aaron Bayer

Governor Brown's statement:

"Schools are critical institutions that provide important services for all our students, but especially our most vulnerable, and during this crisis I have worked hard to ensure those critical services continue. So many of our families depend on school in order for parents to go to their jobs, and for students to access health care and receive nutrition assistance," said Governor Brown.

"However, I have heard from superintendents, school board members, teachers, parents, and students that it has now become impossible to functionally operate schools due to workforce issues and student absences. Schools are experiencing critical shortages in staff, and superintendents are concerned for school personnel who are at elevated risk such as those over age 60 and those with underlying medical issues.

"I want to be very clear: sending Oregon children home will not stop the spread of the coronavirus. While children are home, when at all possible, they should not be in the care of older adults or those with underlying health issues that are most at-risk from COVID-19.

"This is a trying time for our community and I am reluctant to increase the burden on families who are already struggling to adapt to and stay healthy during this crisis. However, we are left with little choice in light of school districts' staff capacity and operational concerns. I want to thank all of the teachers and school employees who have worked hard to keep our schools open until now."