

May 18, 2020

Oregon Trail Families,

The COVID-19 health crisis is expected to cause a significant reduction in state revenues and, thereby, a shortfall in Oregon's budget. A May 20 state revenue forecast will give us an idea of the projected impact.

In anticipation of the shortfall, Oregon Trail's 2020/2021 budget, approved by the budget committee on April 21, presented a conservative approach to spending. While it appears the effect of the health crisis will be even more significant than anticipated, we are addressing the challenge with the same strategic mindset that has helped us persist through prior financial downturns.

One way to manage reductions for the 2020/2021 school year is to implement cost-saving measures now. Working with our employee groups, we agreed to implement furlough days by accessing a state program called Work Share and funds available through the federal CARES Act. The Oregon Work Share Program will compensate employees for lost pay while saving the district about \$450,000 that will help mitigate anticipated shortfalls next school year - protecting more jobs, more school days, and more vital programs for students.

How will the furlough days impact instruction for the remainder of this school year?

- Furlough days are scheduled for May 27 and 29, and June 2 and 4.
- Students can continue to complete any unfinished assignments or projects on the furlough days, however, they may not have access to teachers on the dates listed as furloughed.
- These dates will not interfere with the planned Sandy High Graduation Procession, and will not impact a student's academic standing.
- These dates will also not interfere with the scheduled dates/times for parents to pick up student belongings at our K-8 schools.
- And these dates will not interfere with the May 27 learning packet pick-up at each of our schools.
- The last day of school for students is still June 9.

Once the state revenue forecast is released on May 20, we expect Governor Brown to call a special session with state legislators to implement statewide spending cuts. We will keep you informed as we know more.