

ASD Parents & Guardians:

As part of the re-opening process for the 2020-2021 school year, Astoria School District is required to complete an Operational Blueprint for Reopening for each of the schools in our District. The blueprint is designed to describe how the District will be addressing all of the required health and safety measures that we must follow for students and staff to be present in the buildings.

In addition to the health and safety planning, the district was also required to explore the three models of instruction (on-site, hybrid, remote) outlined by Oregon Department of Education. The district was able to develop an outline of what each of these models could look like, and the feasibility of being able to implement each model of instruction, while adhering to the health and safety protocols required. This work was done by the District Task Force, which included school district parents and staff members.

After reviewing the models developed by the Task Force, the Astoria School District Board of Directors made the decision to begin the 2020-2021 school year in the Remote Learning Model, with the goal of transitioning our students and staff to the Hybrid Model, at each level as soon as it is safe to do so, and in accordance with public health guidelines. As we move closer to students going back to school, the District will need to review these models again based on the status of the pandemic and make possible changes to the models. If changes are made to the three models of learning, we will notify you of the changes.

Below you will find a brief description of how each of these models look, when fully implemented. A broader description of the Instructional Learning Models is in the link below.

### **Remote Learning Model**

In Astoria School District, the school year will begin on September 14, 2020 in the full implementation of the Remote Learning model. This means that all students in the District will begin the 2020-2021 school year learning from home, under the guidance and direction of district staff, using a remote learning platform provided by the District. We are taking necessary steps to make sure that students, parents, and staff are ready for remote learning on September 14, 2020.

### **Hybrid Model**

In full implementation, Hybrid Models are designed to have specific days and times that groups of students will be in buildings, by grade level. In this model, groups of students attend school on-site on specific days, and attend via remote learning for the other days. It is our intent if and when we can move to the hybrid model that groups of students and staff will be phased into school buildings.

### **On-Site Learning Model**

Fully In Session, On-Site Learning Model has all students in attendance at school, every school day for the entire school day. This model looks very similar to how the school

schedule looked before the pandemic, but also requires us to continue to meet the health and safety guidelines required by the state.

### **Oregon's Health and Safety Guidelines for Schools**

The Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Health Authority have provided health and safety guidelines that will impact the District's ability to transition through the different learning models. These requirements continue to change, and will be updated as appropriate. Some of these requirements include:

- **Cohorts** – Cohorting of students and staff is a required strategy to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Cohorting refers to a consistent group of students/staff that stay together for a duration of a day. Students/staff cannot be part of any single cohort or part of multiple cohorts that exceed a total of 100 people in one week.
- **Contact Tracing** - The District must provide and maintain daily logs for each student and staff member, showing where the student/staff member has been each day and who they have come in contact with.
- **Transportation Social Distancing** – Social Distancing of three feet apart for students on school buses is required. Using this guidance, the maximum number of students on a school bus at one time is 24 students.
- **On-Site Social Distancing** - The state requirement for the capacity in any given room is one person per 35 square feet. Furniture or fixtures that are permanently placed in the classrooms must be subtracted from the total room square footage. When students are in classrooms, measures must also be taken to help students maintain social distance.
- **Student Health Considerations** - The District also needs to take into consideration safeguards for medically fragile and students with health-related issues.
- **Cleaning and Sanitation** - The District will have strict guidelines in place for cleaning and sanitizing of facilities. Cleaning will take place often and in high traveled areas.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** - PPE will be required for students and staff while in the buildings. The District will provide necessary face coverings to staff and students, as well as additional hand-washing stations and sanitizer.

As we move forward to the opening of school, we will continue to maintain informative and regular communications with staff, students, and parents regarding the 2020-2021 school year.

We appreciate your helpful feedback and continued support

--