



Perrydale School Updates & Happenings

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At Last... We're Back!!

Over the past three weeks our students have returned to school in a hybrid format



It has been quite the sight seeing many of our students returning to campus over the past few weeks. We now have all thirteen grades back on campus and each student has the opportunity to be in the building two days per week until spring break. **Starting on Monday, March 29th, all Perrydale students choosing to learn on-campus will be attending in-person classes all four days, Monday through Thursday from 7:45-2:15**.** For the remaining eleven weeks of school, students will have the opportunity to learn in class with their classmates and staff every day.

We want to thank our students, families, and staff for their resiliency and dedication to learning over the past 11+ months. This has not been an ideal situation for anybody, but we now see more light at the end of this tunnel. We all look forward to working together to see our students grow and succeed as much as possible during the rest of this year and help springboard them into next school year.

Welcome back, Pirates!!



Getting To & From School

The Oregon Department of Education, Oregon Health Authority, and our local public health department have made drop off and pick up procedures a focal point as we work to keep students at the required distance from others--especially from those who are outside their class cohorts.

While we realize the drop off locations are not ideal for everybody, with our K-12 students all on one campus and extra distance between classes this year, the multiple locations was the best choice we could make. **We truly appreciate your patience with drop-off /pick-up times and locations.** We want to remind you of the following items:

1. Parents need to stay in their vehicles during drop-off and pick-up.
2. Drop-off is from 7:30-7:50 daily. We cannot start before that time because our staff arrive at 7:15 and must go through their own reported screening and prepare for the day to begin. We need parents to be with their student(s) until staff are outside at 7:30 each day. If your student(s) arrive after 7:50, they must report to the office to check in and receive their screening.
3. Students should have their department of education mandated, CDC-compliant mask on when they get out of the vehicle. See the most recent update on mask updates at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>
4. Pick-up time for all families who have *at least* one middle school or high school student is at 2:15. If your family only has students in elementary school, pick-up time begins at 2:05 daily. We are hopeful as we return to full, in-person classes on March 29th, this spacing of time will be helpful.
5. If you have at least one middle school or high school student, please do not get into the pick-up line until just before 2:15. This will clog up the line for the previous group and we will need to have you to circle around so the line can still move.

Thank you for your help with these procedures. We may need to adjust these procedures as we get more students on campus each day. Thank you for your flexibility, if this is necessary!

Drop-off Information

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Times</u>
K-2	Playground	7:30-7:50
3-4	Modulars	7:30-7:50
5	Back Area	7:30-7:50
6-8	<u>By Office</u>	7:30-7:50
9-12	Back Area	7:30-7:50

Pick-up Information

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Times</u>
K-2	Playground	2:05/2:15**
3-4	Modulars	2:05/2:15**
5	Back Area	2:05/2:15**
6-8	<u>Back Area</u>	2:15
9-12	Back Area	2:15



Construction & Bond Update

We are very excited to update you on our projects we are working on around Perrydale. Our projects are moving along well and we wanted to share the good news with you.

Last June we were awarded a \$2.34 million grant from the state of Oregon. This grant will allow our school to address needed seismic upgrades in our old gym and the adjacent areas in order to fortify the structure. While a lot of this work will not be visible because it is under the flooring and behind the walls, this project will greatly enhance our building. We were thrilled with the award from the seismic upgrade program and look forward to merging the project with the upcoming bond project the Perrydale voters passed in November, 2020.

Since the voters passed the bond in November, we have selected an architect for the seismic and bond projects. Having one firm working on both allows us to braid them together into a simultaneous construction process, which will reduce costs and produce a better product. Soderstrom Architects is a well-respected firm which has a group of employees who specialize in K-12 structures. Some of their other K-12 projects can be found here <https://sdra.com/k-12-architecture/>

Over the past few weeks, we also sold our bonds. We were able to get a very good rating prior to the actual sale which occurred in February. As a result, our bonds sold at rates that are anticipated to cost our taxpayers approximately \$1.35 per \$1,000 of assessed value. This is 10% less than the original estimate and the savings will go directly to our taxpayers over the life of the bond. Furthermore, when we sold the \$3,035,000 in bonds, we received a premium of approximately \$445,000. Once fees were calculated, we received just under \$3.4 million. This amount, coupled with the dollar for dollar match from the state, should net our district approximately \$6.8 million. Altogether, with the bond sale proceeds, the matching money from the state, and the seismic grant, our school should have a braided project **worth approximately \$9.1 million, with a cost to our taxpayers of only one-third of that amount and the price tag costing 10% less than anticipated at the time of the election just four months ago.** This is great news for our school and our community. Thank you to our voters for making this happen!

Our next step is to hire a firm to serve as our owner's project manager for the project. With this type of money for the project, the school felt it was imperative we have a professional firm come in and represent us throughout the project, helping coordinate the architect/design team, the builders, and any subcontractors. The proposal process for selecting this project manager has now begun and we anticipate choosing a firm in early April. Once this is completed and we have a company on board, we will work to select a builder. We will keep you updated on this project as we proceed. If you have any questions regarding the construction or bond, please contact Mr. Dugan.



SCOOP, THERE IT IS...BIRTHDAY TREAT REMINDER--We recognize many elementary students did not have an opportunity to share special moments with their friends over the past year. Please remember to let the staff know at least 2 days in advance if your child would like to bring some special treats to class. Also, please note that all treats would **need to be individually wrapped** and ask the teacher if there are any students with allergies, so all can take part in the fun!!! We appreciate your help.

Volunteer Opportunity at Perrydale--Budget Committee



We are always looking for ways for people to be involved at our school. We realize this year is a little different because we cannot have volunteers in the classroom, etc. We do still have opportunities though and would love to see you consider helping.

Our budget committee meets annually and we often have open spots to fill. This is an extremely important and helpful way to help at school because this budgeting process helps guide what we do at school each year. Many people do not feel they have the background or expertise for this, but our business manager, the school board, and the superintendent can all help you and get you the necessary training. We still have two openings for this year and the process is approaching quickly. **The deadline to apply is March 15th.** Please consider helping us this year and in the years to come. Please contact Missy Locke or Cindy Cruickshank in the office at 503-835-7575 if you may have interest. Thank you for your consideration.

School Based Mental Health Specialist

Last fall, Ms. Hilke had another job opportunity and had to say goodbye. We all can appreciate her talents and abilities. She was a dynamic mental health therapist and we were fortunate to have her here as long as we did. That all being said, we were concerned about the mental health of our students during the times of COVID and were eager to find somebody to help fit the role. There were few therapist applicants available for the open position and when the position was offered twice to other applicants, they took jobs elsewhere. Polk County said this past six months has been, by far, the most difficult time to try to hire mental health specialists.

Last week we met twice with Polk County and were able to hear they did have a candidate they felt really good about who could fill the associate position until she completes her therapist license program. This week, we will welcome Ms. Hmura to our school! We were able to meet Ms. Hmura online last week and we were happy with the background she has working with students of various physical emotional levels, as well as experience working with students of multiple ages. Ms. Hmura grew up in the Salem area and went on to WOU for college. We are happy to have her on board. Once she gets started, her email address will be hlmura@perrydale.k12.or.us Welcome aboard Ms. Hmura!



School Days Make-Up

The weather storms in February brought us some horrific power outages in our region. Many of our families had no power for up to a week, or even more. We

appreciate the support you gave us as we had to cancel school on those days. We will be sending out a survey within the next two days in order to get input from families on their thoughts on make-up days. To help offset the missed days, **we will have school on Thursday, March 18th**. This was originally scheduled to be a conference day, but the staff felt having the kids in school that day would be very important and it is the last day before spring break. Our staff, students, and parents have done a tremendous job communicating during this time and we are hopeful this active communication will continue throughout the rest of this year. **On March 18th, Cohort B will be in the building and Cohort A will be online**, or working on their assignments given to them the day before. The other days we choose to offset the missed days will be added once we have most students back in the building on a daily basis.



Supporting Our Online Students & Families

--Perrydale remains committed to helping all students learn, including those students who are choosing to remain at home to learn for the remainder of this school year. Our teaching staff and instructional assistants are available in the afternoon everyday to work with you. Your educational opportunities are extremely important to our staff and we will do our best to reach out and connect with you frequently. Please contact the classroom teachers for more information and to schedule additional interaction, if needed.



Perrydale Athletics

Our teams have been hard at work over the past few weeks to prepare for fall sports...in March?!? The OSAA modified the sports season calendar a couple times this year and we are now on the field and on the court. Our high school and middle school football teams are scheduled to play five games through the early part of April. The high school volleyball team will be playing on approximately 12-14 dates and the middle school volleyball team schedule is still being added to as of this time. We thank you all for your patience through these changing times.

Due to this uncertainty and to offset any possible financial concerns for some of our families, the Perrydale School Board voted to suspend pay to play fees for the 2020-2021 school year. We want to encourage all students to participate and be part of the team this year. It has never felt so important to get students participating in activities and we appreciate the board taking this position and helping our students reconnect with their coaches and peers.

Good luck to all of our teams and Go Pirates!!

Staff & Administrative Changes

Over the past month, we have seen some staffing changes at Perrydale School. As we stated earlier in this newsletter, Ms. Hmura will be our new School Based Mental Health Specialist. In addition to that change, we now have Ms. Enz in the 2nd grade classroom. Ms. Enz finished her year-long student teaching in the Perrydale 2nd Grade classroom in December and took on the full-time teaching role in second grade until the end of this school year. The students are very familiar with Ms. Enz and it made it as seamless of a transition as possible. Welcome aboard, Ms. Enz!

We would also like to welcome Mrs. Ince to Perrydale. Mrs. Ince is a local graduate from Amity High School and went on to study at WOU. She will be completing a long-term substitute position for Mrs. Willis while she is on leave. We will have an additional online teacher supporting our Spanish students as well. Please make sure you give a big welcome to Mrs. Ince!

Mr. Brown also announced that he would be leaving Perrydale in mid-April. Mr. Brown finished up his administrative licensure program last June and recently was offered a job in Coos Bay which starts in April. We will hire a temporary teacher to finish the year with our 8th grade students and he/she will have a lot of support from Mr. Dugan, Mr. Ford, Mrs. Graber, Mrs. Henery, and Ms. Schorr. Our new teacher will start on April 9th, so they have an opportunity to make an overlapped transition with Mr. Brown and his students. Good luck in your new position Mr. Brown!

Mrs. Ford is now the Elementary Dean of Students for grades K-5. In this role, Mrs. Ford will essentially serve in a supervisory role over the elementary and also assess our needs in the elementary moving forward as we look to best support our students now that we are back on campus. Mrs. Ford has a great rapport with students and families, in addition to our staff. She has already hit the ground running and is also looking to add small math groups to her work load to help students who have fallen behind. We are appreciative of Mrs. Ford's willingness to help in this capacity until we hire a new administrator for the 2021-2022 school year. Thank you Mrs. Ford!

Mr. Dugan was recently appointed by the Perrydale School Board to serve as acting superintendent for the remainder of this school year and then continue in that role in a full time capacity moving forward. He will continue serving as the principal overseeing the secondary level, with Mrs. Henery assisting, when needed. Mr. Dugan has been involved with Perrydale since the spring of 1996 and looks forward to working with our students, staff, families, and community members as we embark on exciting updates and changes within the Perrydale School Community. He is extremely excited to transition to this new role and working to further the educational opportunities for our students.

Our Newest Pirate



On Monday, Mrs. Willis gave birth to the newest member of the Willis family...Maya Katherine. She has reported the baby is healthy and the family is thankful Maya is a fan of sleeping, although she may be a little nocturnal. Congratulations again to the Willis Family!!

Staff Communication

As we transition back to four-day a week school for most students, please remember the easiest and best way to effectively communicate with staff will be via email. During the school day, staff have limited time and service to be checking other forms of communication and may not be as available throughout the day as when we were in comprehensive distance learning. We want to continue the proactive conversations with families as we switch over, but wanted to make sure we reminded everybody that we are transitioning back towards some sense of normalcy with the school day. Thank you for your understanding and know we appreciate the continued communication lines we all have been able to foster over the past year.

Have a great week and please reach out to the office or Mr. Dugan if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you and GO PIRATES!!



Perrydale School
Home of the Pirates