



Greetings,

We received good news from the Governor today regarding a change in the metrics governing the reopening of schools in smaller counties. ***As of today, we can open our doors for K-12 students to attend classes on site.*** All school districts in Wallowa County plan to open our doors to students on September 8.

An online option will also be available for students through the Enterprise School District Virtual Academy, with curriculum provided through Pearson.

We are thrilled to be able to welcome students back to school, and our staff is working hard to provide a quality learning program, whether students attend classes in person or online.

The revised metrics require close partnership between school districts and local public health authorities. We have already established detailed plans that include sanitizing and social distancing to maintain as safe a school environment as we can.

Under the revised metrics, in-person instruction can happen in Wallowa County under the following conditions:

- Schools fully comply with sections 1-3 of the *Ready Schools, Safe Learners* guidance (located on ODE website), and students cannot be part of any single cohort, or part of multiple cohorts, that include more than 50 students.
- Total county COVID-19 cases in the last three weeks must be 30 or fewer, with less than half reported in the last week of the three-week period.
- The Local Public Health Authority indicates that there is not community spread in the school catchment area.
- No more than 10 percent of the school's enrollment can live outside the school's catchment area. Students outside the catchment area include inter-district and intra-district transfers.
- The school may not accept new transfers from outside its catchment area (it must continue to serve all students within its boundaries)

### **What this means for our county**

We are no longer being measured by cases per 100,000 people. The new metrics for smaller counties use the total number of cases. This means that as long as we have under 30 cases over the most recent three-week period, we can open for onsite learning. Currently, Wallowa County has a three-week total of one case, which means all schools in the county can open. If we do not continue to meet the above-mentioned metrics, we would have a forced closure. During this closure period, students would access online learning.

More details about back to school will be posted on the district website later this week.

For families who are opting for the Enterprise School District Virtual Academy, the website will include links to parent resources and to more details about the curriculum. Families can enroll by filling out the form on the district website and submitting to your student's school office. Student choosing this option must make a nine-week commitment to online learning before they can enroll back to the onsite learning model. Those who choose can stay with the online model for the entire school year. Pearson will provide all workbooks and manipulatives needed for the curriculum and will mail them directly to students' homes.

We are so pleased to bring you this good news! Please feel free to reach out and ask any questions you may have.

Let's do this Outlaws!

Ms. Pinkerton  
Superintendent