



SOUTH COAST

EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT

Main Office
1350 Teakwood, Coos Bay, OR 97420
541.269.1611 • TDD: 541.269.1611
Fax: 541.266.4040

South Branch Office
29805 Mary St, PO Box 786
Gold Beach, OR 97444
541.247.6681 • Fax: 541.247.2603
www.scesd.k12.or.us

July 23, 2020

Dear Parent(s),

Hello! There has been a lot happening this week, and with new guidance and information about the wearing of face coverings, and some school districts releasing their preliminary plans for re-opening in the fall, I want to make sure that I further explain what this means for your student(s).

At this time, I have been, and continue to still, actively work with the school districts to have students in life skills attend **all day, every day**. We have had a lot of conversations about how vital it is that our students have a consistent routine and access to the specialists and trained staff in order to maximize their learning. Given that our class sizes are smaller than most general education classes, we have the ability to meet the requirements for social distancing and keeping our students on campus all day.

With the new release around the wearing of face coverings/masks the governor released on July 22, 2020, please understand that we will work together through this. I understand that not all our students are going to be tolerant of wearing a face covering, and we will need to work together to establish what this will look like. **Please understand that this is going to look different for each individual student.** However, schools cannot deny access to on-site instruction because of a student's inability to wear a mask. This is an area where there will be protocols in place to help staff, and where we will need your collaboration to address what best meets your student's individual need.

Looking forward to the coming weeks, our plan is to help develop tools, videos, etc. for you to use with your student to start preparing them for the return to school. There will be some new routines to teach students around social distancing, lining up, and washing hands. My goal is to make sure you all have the necessary tools to help make the transition back to the school building as smooth as we can, given all this change. I believe this will help your student(s) with the visualization and pre-teaching that could make a difference for them.

I will continue to work with the school districts to keep moving forward. As things progress, I will do my best to communicate what that means for your student(s) so that you can be as prepared as you can in making decisions for the fall.

Take care,

Kathleen Stauff
Director of Life Skills
kathleens@scesd.k12.or.us
541.266.3939