

# Crook County School District

where students dream, learn, & succeed



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## It's Official: Crook County Schools Open Classrooms to K-3 Students

### First official day of school set for Tuesday, September 8th

Parents and teachers in the Crook County School District will be celebrating the return of students to the classrooms on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. The Oregon Health Authority released the updated metrics this afternoon and Crook County meets the exception for K-3 and small, rural schools four weeks in a row.

“We are excited to finally open up our classrooms. Our staff and students are the lifeblood of our buildings and we’ve missed that energy. This is an exciting day that gives us hope for the upcoming school year,” exclaimed Superintendent Dr. Sara Johnson.

Cases are declining across the state and could mean a return for 4<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade students as well. The state’s test positivity rate dropped to 4.4% last week, which is below the target of 5% for all students to return to the classrooms. The state also corrected the metrics downward from the week of August 16<sup>th</sup> to 5%. That means if the state’s test positivity rate stays below 5% for one more week, the Crook County School District could begin the process of bringing all students back.

Week Starting Date	Case Count	Case Per 100,000 K-3 (<30) 4-12 (<10)	County Test Positivity (<5%)	Could K-3 Open?	State Test Positivity K-3 (NA) 4-12 (<5%)	Could 4-12 Open?
July 5 <sup>th</sup>	5	21	3.6%	Yes	5.7%	No
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	7	30	4.6%	Yes	5.4%	No
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	7	30	3.1%	Yes	5.7%	No
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	10	43	5.5%	No	6.2%	No
August 2 <sup>nd</sup>	5	21	4.2%	Yes	5.2%	No
August 9 <sup>th</sup>	5	21	1.0%	Yes	5.2%	No
August 16 <sup>th</sup>	2	9	0.0%	Yes	5.0%	Yes
August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	0	0	1.0%	Yes	4.4%	Yes
August 30 <sup>th</sup>						
September 6 <sup>th</sup>						
September 13 <sup>th</sup>						

New weekly data released every Tuesday

### “Big Picture” Weekly Metrics

#### To Open K-3

- ≤ 30 cases per 100,000 people
- Test positivity rate of ≤ 5%
- In addition, we must meet the criteria for 3 weeks in a row
- No “local spread”

#### To Open 4-12

- ≤ 10 cases per 100,000 people
- County Test positivity rate of ≤ 5%
- State test positivity rate of ≤ 5%
- In addition, we must meet the criteria for 3 weeks in a row

Changed from last week

“We’re basically one week away from meeting the local and state metrics for all of our students to return. K-3 is happening for sure, so we’ll be watching the data closely. If we meet the metrics next week, we’ll communicate with our families and set a target day for the rest of our students to return,” said Dr. Johnson.

Crook County School District is coordinating closely with the Crook County Health Department. Ensuring students can return and stay in the classrooms will remain a community effort.

“It’s extremely important that people continue with safety precautions in the community. Wearing face coverings, maintaining distance, and washing hands are things we can all do to keep our kids in school,” explained Katie Plumb, Deputy Director of the Crook County Health Department.

The state exceptions also allow for small and rural schools to open, which include Brothers, Paulina, and Pioneer Alternative High School. All schools will open September 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Crook County Health Department COVID-19 Trends**

- There are 55 total cases reported in Crook County as of 8/31/2020
- New case numbers have decreased over the past month
  - Height of new cases was the week of 7/26-8/1 with 10 new cases
  - Last week – 8/23-8/29 – there was 1 new case
- The majority of Crook County cases are among ages 20 to 39 years old
- Crook County has had 5 cases among those 19 years or younger
- Approximately 32% of Crook County cases are associated with recent domestic or international travel
- The majority of Crook County cases have been able to be traced to known sources, and cases have typically been clustered within social, work, or family groups.<sup>i</sup>

### **About Crook County School District**

Crook County School District is a thriving, rural, growing district in Central Oregon, serving more than 3,000 students from all across Crook County. It is an organization with integrity, a model for educational success, and a recognized leader for excellence in helping students dream, learn, and succeed.

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<sup>i</sup> *Data provided by the Crook County Health Department*