



Colton School District 53
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Dr. Koreen Barreras-Brown, Superintendent

RE: April 8, 2020, Governor Kate Brown closes school campuses through the rest of the school year, teaching and learning continue. New graduation requirement information.

Dear Colton School District Families,

Today, Governor Brown announced students would not return to school campuses this school year. (Oregon school campuses will remain closed through the end of the school year.) The Governor's executive order extends the **closure of school buildings through the rest of the school year**. The extended closure is an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19 and keep our community safe and healthy.

Distance Learning for All to continue

While campuses are closed, education continues. The Colton School District will continue to serve families and provide meaningful learning experiences for students for the rest of the school year.

We know many of our families are experiencing challenges and hardships during this unprecedented time. It is stressful for all. During this time of constant change, be assured that the school district and its staff members are here for you. We continue our focus on the well-being of each and every student. We are here to work with you to create a distance learning environment where students can learn, grow, and feel supported.

Changes to graduation requirements for Class of 2020

This year is also changing for our seniors. Governor Brown announced a plan outlining [graduation requirements](#). We are still reviewing the guidance but wanted to let you know that this **will not impact seniors' ability to graduate** this June. Further, this closure will not negatively impact any of our current seniors' ability to graduate on time. Soon our high school team will reach out to seniors with more information.

The extended closure also means that proms, graduations, award ceremonies, and classroom activities will look differently. We are working to reimagine these experiences and want all of our students to have the opportunity for connection, belonging, and optimism. We plan to invite our student leaders to join in planning efforts and look forward to sharing details for these experiences soon. Administrators hope to decide on this by the end of April.

Governor Brown's announcement means there is much to be decided on in the coming weeks. What is certain is that we will continue to educate and support our students. Our educators are committed to ensuring each and every student remains engaged in learning through blended learning strategies and remote delivery methods during this closure. Our educators will be growing and learning alongside our students, and they will need grace and flexibility as they develop and master new ways of delivering instruction.

We look forward to partnering with you in your student's education. By working together, we will rise to the challenge before us. We Carry the Banner.

Sincerely,
Colton School District