



Dear RPA Families,

The Oregon Health Authority has recently confirmed the first Central Oregon case of COVID-19 in Deschutes County. We remain committed to the safety of our students and staff and want to assure you of our vigilance regarding this emerging issue.

At this time, the Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Department of Education recommend against the closing of schools and campuses where no cases of COVID-19 are present. RPA intends to follow this guidance and maintain normal school operations.

Additionally, RPA is following the guidance from our partners at Deschutes County Public Health regarding the prevention of COVID-19 in schools. We are taking steps to help prevent infection and to help keep students safe, healthy, and learning in our classrooms. RPA has put in place the following measures:

- Extra daily cleaning, focusing on frequently touched surfaces.
- Providing hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes in all of our classrooms and asking all visitors and volunteers to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer when they arrive and depart RPA.
- Encouraging anyone (staff, parents, students, volunteers, and visitors) who is feeling unwell to refrain from entering our school campuses and to promptly contact their healthcare provider.

We strongly encourage everyone to use proper hand-washing techniques. [Current guidance](#) is to vigorously wash hands with friction, soap, and water for 20 seconds. Washing hands with soap and water remains the best way to get rid of germs in most situations. If soap and water are not readily available, you can use an alcohol-based [hand sanitizer](#) that contains at least 60% alcohol. In addition, we encourage everyone to follow proper [coughing and sneezing etiquette](#).

At this time, RPA does not intend to cancel any scheduled school events, however we do encourage everyone who feels unwell in our school community to stay home. We are in regular contact with local and state health authorities, as well as local school districts, and are actively monitoring any potential changes to school schedules or events. Families will receive notification via email of any changes to school schedules, events, or activities. Also, we respect any families' wishes to limit their student's participation in any school activities or events. As always, we ask that you please contact our offices if your student will be absent from school.

We are continuing to monitor guidance from the [Oregon Department of Education](#) regarding school closures and potential changes to our schedules. RPA will follow the guidance of public health officials if such a decision must be made.

We will continue to communicate with you as information is updated regarding the local COVID-19.

Thank you for your time and understanding.

Sincerely,

Jon Bullock

Executive Director