

APRIL 1, 2021



Our mission is a shared commitment to educate the whole child in a safe and nurturing community

PRINCIPAL INFORMATION

Being an educator and working with amazing people in education for the last 34 years has brought me great joy and satisfaction. The experiences I have had with all the people in the White Bluffs community will stay with me forever, and for this I thank you! You all are such great people and collectively make up a gifted and strong community. The kids who walk through the doors of White Bluffs are indeed the luckiest kids around!

This is to let the greater White Bluffs community know I will be ending my career in education at the end of June. It is time for me to find out what comes next for me on my journey. Retiring is a bit scary, but I am learning to lean into it. 😊

It has been an honor to work among this community, and I am very confident that White Bluffs Elementary will continue to be a strong and vital part of the Richland School District and the Richland community. **We are the Treasure Hunters!** I am sure we will continue to find many treasures in the Wolfpack kids. Knowing that ALL kids are capable of success, I am confident that we will all continue to instill hope and coach them into knowing they are “talented, smart, and capable of success – no exceptions!”

There will be a parent/community forum on April 26 from 5:45 to 7:45 in which those who would like to participate - on Zoom - will meet the candidates for the next Principal of White Bluffs and be able to give feedback. Please watch for more information to come.

RETURNING TO FULL DAY INSTRUCTION

Finally! We will be able to return to full day instruction for all of our students! We are very excited for this! We will still be taking steps and employing safety protocols to mitigate exposure to the COVID virus, so it will not be our “normal” experience, but to have our students back to full days of instruction is far superior to their experience so far this year!

We will still require parents to send in the Monday attestation each week.

Students and all staff will have to wear masks at all times. Frequent handwashing will be required, as well as distancing protocols.

In the classroom, students will sit at least 3’ apart from other students. There will be plexiglass barriers between students who may sit at or work at tables.

Recesses and lunches will be done in grade level cohorts.

During lunch time, there needs to be a 6' distance from others. We have taped off a 6' grid in our gym, where a whole grade level can fit spread out to eat their lunch. Lunch will be eaten in the gym and each student will have a 6' grid with a chair to eat their lunch.

Supervision at lunch and on the playground for recesses will be increased in order to assist our students with the safety protocols.

The schedule for our day will return to our regular schedule. It has been so long since we have been on the normal schedule, I want to make sure we all remember:

School Starts at 8:40 (tardy bell at 8:45) School Ends at 3:15 Friday Early Release at 2:15

Bus schedules are being revised and will be published in the next few days.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

We are excited to welcome new kindergartners to White Bluffs! The Richland School District Kindergarten registration opened on March 1. If you or anyone you know has a child who turns 5 before August 31, this is the time to enroll them in kindergarten! Follow this link for information needed to enroll your child.

<https://www.rsd.edu/families/enrollmentregistration-guide>

CHARACTER TRAIT OF APRIL - COOPERATION

According to Dr. Gloria Julius of the Primrose Schools, the definition of cooperation is simple enough – *combining energies to work towards a common goal*. But teaching its meaning to a young child is easier said than done. Cooperation requires a combination of character attributes, such as being respectful, honest, helpful and thoughtful. Though these are traits every parent wants their child to have, young children naturally tend to be focused on themselves. They can, however, learn these traits over time through frequent encouragement and modeling by adults. We will be teaching, modeling and working on the trait of cooperation during the month of April.

FACE COVERINGS

The Department of Health (DOH) requires all students in a school building or on a school bus to wear a face covering, either a cloth face mask or plastic face shield with drape. According to DOH, a cloth face covering is fabric that covers the nose and mouth. It can be:

- A sewn mask secured with ties or straps around the head or behind the ears.
- Multiple layers of fabric tied around a person's head.
- Made from a variety of materials, such as fleece, cotton, or linen.
- Factory-made or made from household items.

DOH does not recommend the use of masks with exhalation valves or vents, or single layer bandanas and gaiters. **Also, gaiters do not meet the requirement listed above. Please make sure your student has an approved face mask. We have masks at school that we will give your student should they arrive wearing a gaiter. Thank you!**

CHROMEBOOK REGISTRATIONS and INSURANCE PROTECTION PLAN

Our community's support of our 1:1 Technology Initiative ensures every student in our schools will have their own digital device to connect with their teachers and classmates online. Parents will need to complete a registration for their children's Chromebook online. This also includes the opportunity to purchase a protection plan for \$15 per student device for the entire school year. The link below will take you directly to the elementary Chromebook policy and protection plan:

<https://www.familyid.com/programs/richland-school-district-chromebook-policy-aug-2020-aug-2021-elementary-schools>

CHROMEBOOK AND/OR TECHNOLOGY PROBLEMS?

Our IT staff are prepared to assist our students and families, so students can learn online each school day. Students and parents/guardians may reach out to IT staff regarding problems with district-issued technology at ChromebookHelp@rsd.edu or by calling (509) 967-6162, 7 a.m.- 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. We have also put together a list of options for families who need help acquiring Internet service for their students. [You can access those options by visiting our Technical Assistance webpage.](#)

	APRIL DATES OF IMPORTANCE
Every Monday (or first day of week)	Fill out Weekly Health Attestation form for each child
April 5 - 9	No School – SPRING BREAK
April 12 - 25	Scholastic Book Fair - Virtual
April 14, 15, 16	No Attendance at School - All lessons and students working asynchronously – teachers and schools preparing for April 19 return to full day instruction
April 19	Return to Full Day Instruction – All Kids All Day!
April 23	Middle School Registration Presentations - Zoom
April 26	White Bluffs Principal Interview Parent/Community Forum 5:45

Mask upKeep your distance*** Wash hands frequently***Stay home if you are sick***

We ask everyone to watch their email, the district website and social media accounts for future updates.

School Day Checklist

Here are some reminders to help your child be successful at school:



Weekly Health Attestation

Don't forget to fill out the weekly health attestation every Monday morning before sending your child to school (Tuesday if no-school day on Monday). You may use the QR code here, or any link you receive in an email or ClassTag message. Please help us with this process by ensuring the weekly attestation process is completed in a timely manner so your child can maximize their classroom learning time with their teacher.

<https://forms.gle/dsonzYDRw2Tyg7KJA>



Mask

Ensure your child has a clean and properly fitting mask. Once on campus, masks will be required to be worn at all times.



Water Bottle

It is recommended that your child bring a water bottle to/from school each day as our shared drinking fountains are temporarily closed. Please label the water bottle with your child's first and last name.

Important Contact Information

General Information/Auto Attendant with Options

509.967.6575

Attendance

Attendance Office Email: wbe.attendance@rsd.edu

Chromebook Assistance

Phone: 509.967.6162 Email: chromebookhelp@rsd.edu

Transportation/Bus

509.967.6155

News and Information

District Website: <https://www.rsd.edu>

White Bluffs Website: <https://www.whitebluffs.rsd.edu>

White Bluffs PTO Facebook: *White Bluffs Elementary Parent Teacher Organization*