



BLACHLY SCHOOL DISTRICT #90
Triangle Lake Charter School K- 12
"A community is known by the schools it keeps"
Superintendent: Adam Watkins

January 20, 2021

TLCS families:

As I'm sure you've heard, Oregon Department of Education (ODE) released updated *Ready Schools, Safe Learners* (RSSL) guidance and companion documents yesterday. We are working through this new guidance and related guidance documents, and making plans for our next steps.

While the *Metrics for Returning to In-Person Instruction* have shifted from required to advisory, giving school districts local control for how and when they open, **the rest of the RSSL expectations are still required**. There are over 160 different items for health and safety that must be met. These include things such as: social distancing of 6 feet and space allocations for each person of 35 square feet, assigned student seating, cohorting, contact tracing protocols, extensive cleaning procedures, and required facial coverings for all staff and students.

Another major change in the update to RSSL yesterday, was the shift in thresholds of case rates and test positivity numbers for each category of the Metrics indicating the recommended instructional models. The updated Metrics chart and Lane County data can be found on our website at:
<http://www.blachly.k12.or.us/metrics/>

Blachly School District will continue to follow the Metrics for determining what instructional model we will operate within. Our staff will be returning to working on site, to prepare our physical spaces and train and plan for bringing students back onto campus. We expect to phase in grade levels in a staggered schedule over time in February, and will be sharing more initial details about this plan next week.

We know many of you have questions/concerns about on-site COVID testing. At this time, TLCS does not plan to have any testing of students or staff on our campus. Under current guidance, that is a requirement of schools that elect to operate outside of the Metrics.

We will be offering a community forum, to provide an opportunity for families and community members to learn details about the plan for when students are on campus, and to ask questions and bring up concerns. Stay tuned – that will be scheduled very soon.

Sincerely,

Adam Watkins
Superintendent