



August 3, 2020

Dear ECS Families,

We wanted to share an update on our 2020-21 school year plan, registration, first day orientation, school calendar, and state guidance at this time. I also want to start by thanking you all for your continued support and patience during COVID-19. ECS's Operational Blueprint (found at [www.eddyvillecharterschool.org](http://www.eddyvillecharterschool.org)) outlines details beyond what I can fit into a 'welcome back' letter.

In short, we are offering **4-days/week full-time on campus instruction for grades K-5**. This comes as a major change to our previous plan. With Oregon's (ODE's) new requirements, there are many metrics that need to be met in order to instruct on campus. Since ECS is a remote/rural school and our elementary will stay at/under 100 students, we are able to proceed with our blueprint, but only for K-5. At this time, grades 6-12 will be held online. We are providing online instruction aligned to on campus classes for all of K-12. 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students need to make sure and complete the Class Selection form on our website. This will expedite the scheduling process.

Attendance/Check-ins are required and work will be graded the same as on campus enrolled students. Each teacher will have instructions on the specific protocols. This is different from the distance learning guidelines we had to follow last year.

Being set up for online allows ECS to smoothly transition into distance learning if there were an outbreak that would shut us down or if a student is ill with a common cold/flu symptoms and needs to engage remotely for a day or two.

Orientation day for online and onsite elementary is set for August 31 and secondary online orientation is set for Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>. All K-12 classes will begin September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **Registration/Enrollment:**

Due to COVID regulations, our classrooms have varying max capacity options. We promoted and posted our Intent to Enroll survey and strongly encourage you to complete this, ASAP. Included in this mailing is our registration packet. You may return this packet starting Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. Due to our capacity restrictions, the sooner you get this in the more likely you will have a spot.

If you choose to drop off your packet or need a new packet, we will have **registration on August 11<sup>th</sup> from noon – 7:00pm and on August 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am – 4:00pm**. There will be tents and tables for outside registration and we ask that you wear your face covering for this event. At this time, please bring any/all school issued books and technology devices (if broken). We will reissue a new one or reassign the current device. We want to ensure each student has access to a device all year.

#### **K-5 School Schedule and Calendar:**

School begins August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Doors open at 8:00am where students will enter the main doors after using the handwashing stations/sanitation stations. A staff member will be there to visually assess students, welcome them, and send them to their classroom.

Breakfast is delivered/served in their classroom from 8:00am until 8:30am. A morning warm-up and welcome activity will take place during breakfast.

8:30 will be clean up and sanitation.

Class will begin at 8:45am and the school day ends at 2:30 to allow for adequate clean-up time and boarding buses/pm transportation with appropriate social distancing.

2:40 – Elementary dismissed

2:45 – Buses depart ECS

Staff will use this additional time to update and manage their virtual classrooms and sanitizing. They are truly remarkable!

With the new routines and guidelines, we are having two orientation days to allow our kids time to adjust and learn the new expectations. This will be for onsite and online learners and it is required.

August 31<sup>st</sup> – Orientation K-5

September 1<sup>st</sup> - Orientation 6-12

September 2<sup>nd</sup> – First day of school K-12

### **COVID Guidelines:**

All students and staff are 'required' to wear masks or facial coverings. We are providing masks as well as shields in multiple sizes for students and staff, but if students have a preferred covering from home that fits the requirements he/she may use that. Shields may be preferred because they enable students to see whole faces.

This prevents potential barriers to phonological instruction and reinforces social and emotional cues. This is a new guidance that has many concerned and rightfully so. ECS (per ODE's guidance) will never deny a student onsite instruction as a result of not wearing a mask due to one of the following:

- Medical condition which prevents student from wearing a covering

- Doctor's orders to not wear a face covering

- Other health related concerns

\*If a student needs to remove a face covering for a short period of time, our school staff/team are aware of this and will ensure appropriate space, adequate supports for re-engagement in the lesson and again, never discriminate against or discipline a student for their inability to safely wear a face covering. This is taken directly from the ODE guidance.

### **Transportation:**

Due to COVID restrictions, busing is limited and there are a number of new guidelines. This is First Student's direction as outlined by the state of Oregon. As mentioned in earlier communication, if you have the ability to transport your student(s), it will be extremely helpful.

NEW:

*Students are limited to one per seat, except siblings can sit up to three per seat. Bus assignments will be coordinated with our office and First Student once registration is complete.*

*There will only be one assigned stop registered. No changes can be made to locations at this time.*

Please think strategically about which stop will be used the most. Register this stop and then register an extensive list of authorized transporters on the bus form in your registration packet. Sorry for this inconvenience. If you have questions/concerns, please call First Student. We understand the frustration with this, but let's be proactive in a solution as we know how important it is to have our kids in school!

Thank you for your time and cooperation in this critical team approach to the 2020-21 academic year at ECS. We appreciate you so much!

Sincerely,

Ms. Knudson and Team