

Sherman County School District



Communication to the Community

Issue #21

From Sherman County
School District
Moro, Oregon

WORKING TOGETHER TO PUT STUDENT SUCCESS FIRST

February 16, 2018

Sherman County Families, Staff, and Community Members,

I am saddened by the tragedy that occurred in Parkland, Florida on Wednesday at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. During these upsetting times, parents and community members often seek information about what they can do to support their children and to better understand the policies and procedures in place to keep everyone safe in our schools. This is a normal and appropriate reaction in such a concerning time.

To start, the Sherman County School District has a close partnership with the Sherman County Sheriff's Department and Sherman County Emergency Services. Please know that the Sherman County School District has been working together with these agencies in a collaborative effort to further develop coordinated plans in the event of an emergency situation in our schools. In addition, a Safety Committee consisting of numerous organizations (Sheriff's Department, Emergency Services, Oregon Department of Transportation, Mid-Columbia Transportation Company, Sherman County Road Department, City of Moro, Sherman Preschool, Local Fire Departments and the School District) meet together monthly to discuss safety measures. This dedicated group is currently developing a well thought out plan to defend against potential security threats. All of this is in addition to the current safety protocols already in place including modernized access points for visitor management, mandatory sign-in/out procedures, security cameras, and door entry card readers. Our school also periodically conducts drills and lockdown procedures for emergency scenarios.

We want to remind parents/guardians that in the unlikely event of an emergency, the District will communicate with SCSD parents and guardians using our School Messenger system. As you may know, School Messenger is our automated telephone system that will deliver important recorded messages to parents via their telephone. This system provides us with an effective and timely way to communicate. Parents/guardians can be prepared to receive prompt communication from the District by ensuring that phone numbers are up-to-date in our School Master student information system. If you need to update your telephone contact number, please call Sherman County School at 541-565-3500.

This incident in Florida reminds us all that we must do everything we can to keep our students and staff safe at all times. I want the entire Sherman County Community to know that the well-being of our children and staff is my highest priority. Our thoughts and condolences are with the students and staff members of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

Sincerely,

Wes Owens
Superintendent