

Sherman County School District

65912 High School Loop

Moro, Oregon 97039

(541) 565-3500

(541) 565-3319 fax



January 26, 2016

Dear Sherman County School District Students, Parents, Families and Staff,

The Sherman County School District is committed to maintaining open communication lines with the entire school community. With this in mind, I want to share information with you on a recent Board Policy (EBCD) modification regarding ½ Day Friday schedules and emergency school closures. Beginning immediately, if the District closes for a full day due to inclement weather or other emergency situations, the ½ Day Friday at the end of that week will automatically become a full day Friday unless there is a school closure on that particular Friday. When there is a 2-hour delay, the ½ Day Friday at the end of that week will not be altered. The reason behind this decision is that the Board believes students are better served, both academically and socially, by being in school as much as possible during the entire school year.

If this situation occurs in the coming months, I will communicate and remind everyone through our School Messenger system. This method of communication has proven to be very effective. Please remember that parents/guardians/staff can be prepared to receive prompt communication from the District by ensuring that phone numbers are up-to-date with school office staff. You can do this by calling Sherman Elementary at 541-333-2250 or Sherman Jr./Sr. High School at 541-565-3500.

Enclosed with this communication is a letter from Mid-Columbia Bus Company (MIDCO) regarding “Snow Routes”. In the event we need to implement or alter certain routes during a school day, this will be communicated to you through the School Messenger system. Oftentimes representatives from MIDCO will also personally contact certain families to communicate any alterations to transportation plans. If you have any questions regarding “Snow Routes”, I encourage you to contact MIDCO Location Manager, Lisa Kaseberg at 541-442-5723.

Although various types of emergencies may cause the closing or delay of our schools anytime of the year, the winter months always carry the increased likelihood of such closures. Please understand that we make the decision to open, delay or close school during inclement weather conditions based on an extremely thorough analysis of all relevant factors continuing until a final decision is made prior to 6:00 a.m. These decisions are not always perfect and are often complicated by our varied elevations and unpredictable weather in our geographically diverse county. With all of this being said, we completely understand that you as parents/guardians know what is best for your child. If you believe your child would be safer at home during inclement weather conditions, we respect and understand that decision.

The trust that you place in the Sherman County School District to develop your students’ potential and prepare them for their life after high school is never taken for granted and is greatly appreciated.

As always, I encourage your feedback and participation in the life of the Sherman County School District. I welcome your comments, feedback and questions. Please give me a call at Sherman Jr./Sr. High School at 541-565-3500; Sherman Elementary at 541-333-2250 or send me an email at wowens@sherman.k12.or.us.

Thank you for your tremendous cooperation and ongoing support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wes Owens', written over a white background.

Wes Owens
Superintendent