



August 24, 2018

Greetings Ashland School District Families;

With the continued smoke from area wildfires, the district has been working hard to address air quality concerns and ensure the safety of our students and staff. We are confident with the measures outlined below we will all have a healthy start to the new school year!

- **Indoor Air Quality:** 20 portable “air scrubbers” are located in buildings throughout the district. These filters will be used to maintain health air quality. The operations team will monitor indoor air quality throughout the day to insure the safety of our students and staff.
- **Outdoor Air Quality:** Please review the attached Oregon Health Authority guidance to schools. The district and each location will use this table combined with the City of Ashland air quality reporting system to determine appropriate outdoor activities when smoke is present.
- **Air Filtration Masks:** In order for air filtration masks to be effective, they must fit properly. If your student is particularly sensitive to smoke, we encourage you to work with your healthcare provider to obtain a well-fitting mask.
- **Smoke Sensitivity:** Smoke can be especially concerning for those living with asthma, allergies or other chronic respiratory conditions. If you have concerns specific to your child’s needs at school or if your child has a health condition that causes them to miss more than three days of school, please contact your school office.
- **Student Absences:** Absences due to air quality follow the same procedures as any absence due to illness. Parents may excuse up to three absences. Frequent absences or absences of more than three consecutive days due to illness/air quality may require follow up with the school nurse and/or verification from a health care provider.
  - Oregon Law requires the district to drop students after 10 consecutive school days of non-attendance, regardless of the reason for the absence. Students who have been dropped due to long-term absence may be re-enrolled at the school office when they are ready to return to class.

Thank you for sharing your concerns, we look forward to seeing your kids next week!

Sincerely,

Laurie Rooper

Director of Human Resources & Communications

Jordan Ely

Chief Finance & Operations Officer