

July 31, 2020

Dear CVCS Parents,

This has been an interesting week. It has been filled with highs and lows along with some question marks.

One of the highlights was redoing our large school sign on the west side of the field facing the traffic coming from Corvallis. The previous posts had been rotting and one was completely broken. This week the posts were replaced by large 14" diameter posts and strong new cross beams. Thanks to Allen Aho for all the equipment and know-how along with his crew, Lynn Hendricksen and his son, along with Ralph and myself. We cannot do jobs like that without specialized help.

The second event was the culmination of months (even years) of talks and meetings. Today, Ralph went to the Oregon Conference Office to pick up the check for our driveway from ODOT. Now we can proceed to the finish by getting the last of the gravel in place so the road can be paved. Thanks to Ralph for being the contact person on this project, but also the surveyor, project manager, researcher, and more.

However, while these good things were happening, things were changing again at the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and notices from the governor's office. Our CVCS staff and the Oregon Conference Education Department has already put many hours toward preparing our Communicable Disease Management Plan (CDMP) and the Operational Blueprint for Reentry for 2020-21. But once again changes have occurred.

We know you as parents are anxious to know how to plan for this year. That is difficult when the mandates change weekly. We have been saying that we could expect to have face-to-face teaching and learning at school. That is still partly true, but there are some changes. There are limitations based on percentages of Covid-19 per county, per state, and per specialized groupings that we have to meet in order to be educating at school and to continue doing so.

I have been reading the new plans from the state as well as talking them over with Dan Nicola, our associate superintendent at the conference office. There have been concerns and already some misconceptions about how this is supposed to work. This letter is to let you know we are listening. And rather than to rush out a new plan or explanation, I want to let you know we want to carefully explain what we know to be happening and provide some alternative solutions or actions in a more detailed letter by early next week.

This is frustrating to me as it is to many of you. I want to have faith that God didn't help us get a new driveway and not to use it. Like so many Bible stories, the participants couldn't see how things would work out in the end. I think God's got big plans for us. Let's pray that He will open doors to our school or even bigger doors – and if not that – to our hearts.

Stay tuned for more details to follow.

May God bless you this weekend.

Sincerely,

Les Kelley