

November 13, 2020

Dear St. John Fisher School Families,

This afternoon Governor Kate Brown announced that the west coast states have issued travel advisories. The travel advisory states:

- Persons arriving in Oregon from other states or countries, including returning residents, should practice self-quarantine for 14 days after arrival. These persons should limit their interactions to their immediate household. This recommendation does not apply to individuals who cross state or country borders for essential travel.
  - Non-essential travel includes: travel that is considered tourism or recreational in nature.
  - Essential travel includes: work and study, critical infrastructure support, economic services and supply chains, health, immediate care, and safety, and security.
- Oregonians are encouraged to stay home or in their region and to avoid non-essential travel to other states or countries. Avoiding travel can reduce the risk of virus transmission and bringing the virus back to Oregon.

This travel advisory DOES apply for our school. Therefore, beginning TODAY, any person that travels outside of Oregon for non-essential travel will need to follow the self-quarantine for 14 days after returning to Oregon. To help ensure compliance, we will be adding a question regarding non-essential travel to our entry screening protocol.

In addition to the travel restrictions, Governor Brown announced a two week “freeze” for the entire state of Oregon. She also noted specifically that counties where the spread of COVID is rampant, such as Multnomah County, may have an extended “freeze” for an additional 2 weeks depending on their case counts after the initial 2 weeks. This potential 4 week timeline would take us to Christmas break. The “freeze” restrictions the Governor announced include:

- Limiting social get-togethers (indoors and outdoors) to no more than six people, total, from no more than two households.
- Limiting faith based organizations to a maximum of 25 people indoors or 50 people outdoors.
- Limiting restaurants and bars to take-out only.
- Closing gyms and fitness organizations.
- Closing indoor recreational facilities, museums, indoor entertainment activities, and indoor pools and sports courts.

- Closing outdoor recreational facilities, zoos, gardens, aquariums, outdoor entertainment activities, and outdoor pools.
- Limiting grocery stores and pharmacies to a maximum of 75% capacity and encouraging curbside pick-up.
- Limiting retail stores and retail malls (indoor and outdoor) to a maximum of 75% capacity and encouraging curbside pick-up.
- Closing venues (that host or facilitate indoor or outdoor events).
- Requiring all businesses to mandate work-from-home to the greatest extent possible and closing offices to the public.
- Prohibiting indoor visiting in long-term care facilities.

This “freeze” does not directly impact K-12 schools as we follow the Ready Schools, Safe Learners protocols. Multnomah County is in “Distance Learning” which allows for Limited In Person Instruction. Therefore, St. John Fisher School will maintain our Limited In Person Instruction as outlined this past week with our new cohorts and students coming up to 4 times per week. Participating in Limited In Person Instruction is NOT mandatory and we will continue to provide Comprehensive Distance Learning for all students in addition to Limited In Person Instruction.

We need to all be in this together to slow the spread of COVID-19. If you are not able to adhere to the guidelines outlined above, we ask that you take advantage of our Comprehensive Distance Learning program to maintain the health and safety of our entire school community. By maintaining social distance, wearing a mask, washing hands, staying home if you are not feeling well and getting your flu shot, you will help slow the spread and in turn, help our state and school return to a more fully-functioning community.

Blessings,

Merrit Holub  
Principal  
St. John Fisher School