



19710 State Route 534  
Mount Vernon, WA 98274  
Phone: 360-445-5785  
Fax: 360-445-4511

**July 31, 2020**

Dear Conway Families,

I would like to thank you for your patience as we have worked through the summer to create a plan for our reopening in the fall. We have been working with the department of health, attending state webinars, and communicating with other districts to ensure we have as much information as possible when making our decision regarding our fall opening.

A month ago, based on the low number of COVID cases and the downward trend, we thought we would be able to open fully in the fall. Unfortunately, the cases have continued to rise, including those in Skagit County. As we have collaborated with other districts, they have slowly started to announce their intent to open school remotely in the fall with a limited number of students on campus. As of the writing of this letter, all other Skagit Districts have indicated the majority of their learning will be online. This is done to prevent the spread of the virus to our families, staff and those that are at the most risk in our school community.

We created a planning team of parents, staff, community members and health professionals. The team met again on Thursday July 30<sup>th</sup> to review the current information on the virus, chances of transmission, and our ability to meet the OSPI requirements. Although we are confident that we can separate students into smaller groups and maintain the physical distancing, we did not feel that with the current rate of spread that we would not put your children, families, and our staff at risk. **Therefore, the team is recommending to the school board that we begin with remote learning for a majority of our students and bring a limited number of students to campus in a phased in approach.**

We have revised our plan from full in-person learning to a Phased Reopening with some in person learning. This plan will have some of our students on campus while others will be learning remotely. During the course of the reopening, we will monitor learning on and off campus and make adjustments as needed. Those adjustments could include adding another grade of students to the campus or increasing or decreasing the number of days students are on campus. **We will review the entire plan in 10 weeks (the week of November 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>).** During that review we will determine when to bring more students on campus and notify families of the plan.

Students will be engaged in the following learning:

**Kindergarten and first Grade Students will be on campus 2 days a week.** More information will be coming from your child's teacher and Mr. Dickinson about the schedule and how it will work.

**2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students will be learning through our new and improved distance learning model.** (more information on the next page)

We will have some services on campus for specific students as outlined by OSPI. Our program coordinators will contact families to determine the level of on campus participation for those students.

**Conway Connects is still an option** for families that want to stay enrolled with Conway, have access to our online programs and other resources, but take charge of the learning for their student(s).

## What will Continuous Learning 2.0 look like?

Once the school board has approved our plan, Mr. Dickinson and his planning team will send you specific details. We used the parent survey you filled out in the spring to make improvements to our learning model and communication system. Some of those improvements include:

- A more robust online model with a focus on one platform for communication referred to as our Core 4 (Google Meet, Classroom, and Drive along with videos through YouTube)
- Increase in our school-to-home connections and communication
- Streamline communication on assignments, with more specific feedback and grading
- Daily contact and engagement through online instruction, assignments and activities

Additionally, OSPI has the following requirements that will be integrated into our program:

- Daily attendance, engagement, and classwork assignments
- The expectation for all districts is to provide 180 days of instruction

The first week of school, teachers will plan a number of activities to orient students and families to this model of instruction, schedules, requirements, required assessments, and “get to know you” activities.

Finally, for those that completed the survey we are assuming the following:

1. If you have a Kindergarten or first grade student, we are assuming you will still attend in person with the modified schedule. For those of you that signed up for remote learning, we will contact you to see if your plans have changed.
2. If you signed up for Continuous Learning (online) you are still signed up.
3. If you signed up for on campus learning, you will now be shifted to our online instruction.
4. If you signed up for Conway Connects (parent led learning but still connected to Conway) we will assume you want to continue with that plan unless you contact us.

Finally, we want to acknowledge that this system of learning is not ideal, we would prefer to be in person with your students every day. Our plan is to make it high quality and engaging, but it's not a replacement for in-person learning. We also understand that some families will have barriers to online learning such as needing childcare, difficult for your child to engage, additional computers and a wide array of other factors. **We will contact families the week before school starts to find out what we can do to reduce barriers and to provide resources, such as additional Chromebooks. As always, you can call and talk to Mr. Dickinson or Mr. Cravy about the barriers and we will work to help you, please don't ever think you are alone on this journey.**

We know you have a lot of questions about what our Continuous Learning Online Model will look like as well as logistical questions for those that will be on campus. Mr. Dickinson and Mr. Cravy are working with their teams and will send you very specific information the week of August 10<sup>th</sup>. We are asking you to wait until after those details come out before you send in any questions about specific details.

Thank You,

Jeff Cravy, Superintendent. Tim Dickinson, Principal

And, the Fall 2020 Conway School Planning Team