



PHOTO BY CHARLIE KANZIG

Sisters Elementary School allowed parents to retrieve personal items after Governor Kate Brown announced that schools will remain closed.

SCHOOLS: Materials pick up at schools was emotional for many

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to Brown and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), basically, seniors will be given a "Pass" for any classes they were passing at the time of the closure, which will ensure those students get their diplomas. Any students who were not passing will be given the opportunity to complete their courses in order to finish up.

ODE will soon publish further guidelines for grade 9-11 regarding how the question of credits and grades will be handled.

Sisters High School Principal Joe Hosang said, "I am confident about how we will take care of the students, including the seniors. Everyone seems to understand this is a work in progress, so parents and students have been very understanding and gracious."

Regarding this year's graduates, Hosang has a team of parents and staff members working on plans to honor the seniors as well as possible given the circumstance.

"Between the Senior Party committee, GRO, and our commencement ceremony committee, as well as others, we are going to do all we can to make things as good as we can for the class of 2020," he said.

Once Brown's announcement came, clearing out student belongings got added to the list of tasks needing to be accomplished. The elementary school was able to bag up students' possessions from the classroom for pickup along with the educational materials Friday, but personal possessions will have to be dealt with in the future for middle and high school students, according to Superintendent Curt Scholl.

He wrote, "Now that we know that we will not be returning to our buildings, we understand that some students have personal property in the schools and we will need to arrange a process for the recovery of those items. This communication will come from your child's school, but please be patient as we

are currently working to re-engage our students."

Middle school teacher and teacher union president Michelle Hammer acknowledged the challenges ahead for everyone involved. "Preparing for this 'new normal' creates a steep learning curve for teachers and they are working extremely hard to meet students' needs," she said. "In whatever we do we do not want to add additional stress to families. We do want to provide some semblance of normalcy for our students by helping them get into a routine, while being keenly aware that families are facing multiple challenges themselves."

Warburg spoke in the same vein, saying, "I couldn't be prouder of our staff who have been incredible this week in their hard work to plan and organize materials for our students, connect with families, and learn new skills. They are eager to begin the work this week to rebuild their classroom community in a virtual environment. We appreciate the way Sisters' parents have been so supportive — we will make mistakes as we practice this new way of teaching and we will model for our students what it means to have a growth mindset, growing our brains as we all learn new skills."

High school teacher Kristy Rawls, who also assisted with handing out materials, said, "I was very glad that I was able to help and also see the students. It made my heart happy during this really rough time. I am so sad for those big events that seniors and other students are going to miss, but equally sad to lose all those small daily contacts we have with our kids."

Scholl touched briefly in his letter on what "distance learning" is comprised of.

"This distance learning is not just about online education and may, in fact, include a blend of other modes, such as phone calls, recorded video lessons, Canvas, Google Meet, Zoom and paper packets," he said.

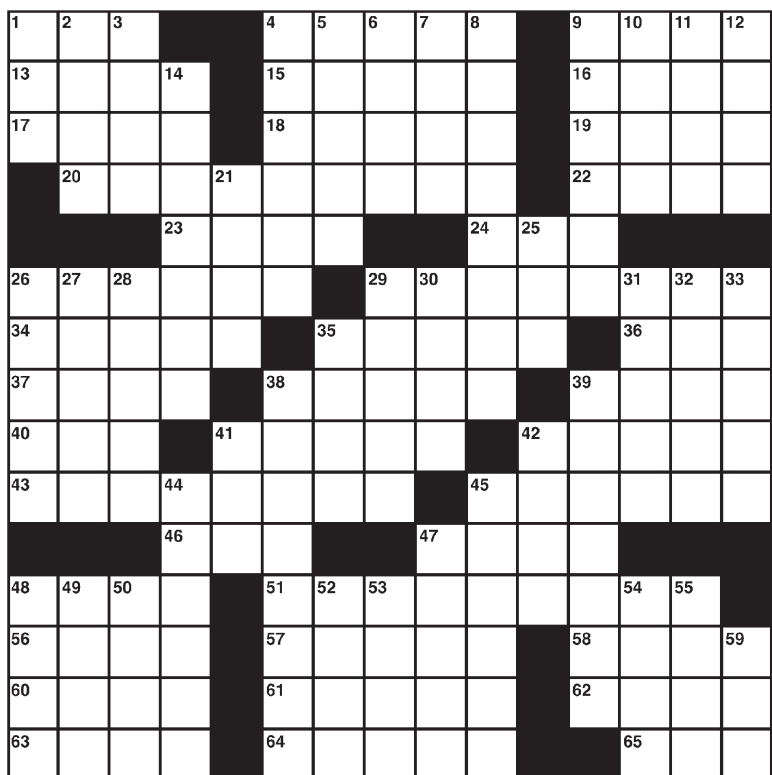
Scholl asked for continued "patience, kindness, resilience and strength" moving forward into the weeks and months ahead. "We are in uncharted waters, but the school district has the right people to tackle this challenge."

The Nugget Newspaper Crossword

By Jacqueline E. Mathews, Tribune News Service

- ACROSS**
- 1 Big game
 - 4 Ice cream parlor orders
 - 9 Big __; 18-wheelers
 - 13 Dread
 - 15 Kick out
 - 16 Partner of ready & willing
 - 17 Hurricane wind
 - 18 Wild talker
 - 19 Track competition
 - 20 Reckless criminal
 - 22 Sharp tools
 - 23 Small horse
 - 24 Youth
 - 26 Foolhardy
 - 29 Trustworthy
 - 34 Word in 2 U.S. state names
 - 35 Vestibule
 - 36 Male animal
 - 37 Put on the staff
 - 38 Bring down
 - 39 Fishhook's point
 - 40 Suffix for count or govern
 - 41 Turned off
 - 42 Wall color
 - 43 Saved
 - 45 Race participant
 - 46 Bouquet delivery co.
 - 47 King or queen
 - 48 Hollywood sighting
 - 51 Acquiring
 - 56 Immense
 - 57 Manicurist's concerns
 - 58 Robert De __ of "Raging Bull"
 - 60 On __ own; independent
 - 61 Guitarist Van Halen
 - 62 Pleased
 - 63 Do the laundry
 - 64 Coral ridges
 - 65 Ending for Siam or Sudan

- DOWN**
- 1 Trio before HI
 - 2 Soft metal
 - 3 Vitamin K-rich green
 - 4 Blissfully calm
 - 5 Female organ
 - 6 Prima donna
 - 7 __ a test; nailed it
 - 8 Tot transport
 - 9 __ Inn; Best Western rival
 - 10 Wild goat
 - 11 Merriment
 - 12 Mends, as bones
 - 14 Interval of rest
 - 21 Luxurious
 - 25 Lung contents
 - 26 Church volunteer
 - 27 Din
 - 28 Sausage
 - 29 Used an oar
 - 30 Observed
 - 31 Location of the thalamus
 - 32 By and __; altogether
 - 33 Glowing coal fragment
 - 35 Aft's partner, in phrase
 - 38 Cockney, for one



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

— Last Week's Puzzle Solved —



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- 39 Being flexible
- 41 In just a __; soon
- 42 Incinerate
- 44 Get __ start; begin again
- 45 Employees' delights
- 47 Neighbor of Nev.
- 48 __ up; arrive
- 49 Bluefin or albacore
- 50 Matures
- 52 Commanded
- 53 Laundry soap
- 54 Longest river
- 55 Mardi __
- 59 "__ on a Grecian Urn"

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