

Need tech support?

If a student or parent needs assistance with a Chromebook, support is available from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. Call 541-524-2467 or email techsupport@bakersd.org.

Please keep in mind that we can only assist students and parents with district-owned devices at this time. Please call the help desk prior to dropping off a device for repair to make an appointment for drop-off. This way we can first determine if a physical repair is needed, and second, provide any current/updated health-related guidance for visiting the district office.

Device return

Families are asked to return devices and hot spots to their individual schools on June 10-11, along with textbooks, library books and any other borrowed school materials. Devices will be assessed for damage and disinfected over the summer.

Bulldog Pride

Baker School District 5J
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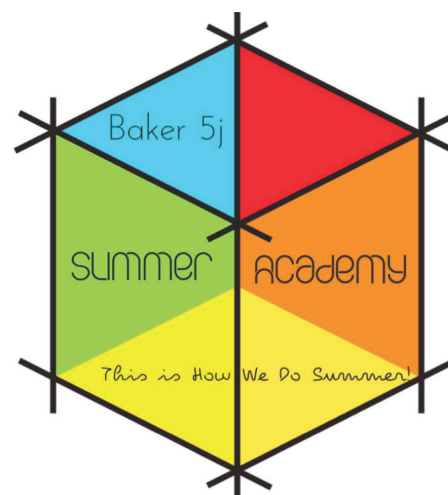
Plans under way for Summer Academy to combat summer slide

Learning loss resulting from an extended school break — called the “summer slide” — has effects in three main areas:

- Achievement slows or declines over the summer months
- Declines tend to be steeper for math than for reading
- Extent of that loss increases in the upper grades

This research compiled by Dr. Megan Kuhfeld and Dr. Beth Tarasawa was re-interpreted in an April 2020 report on what they’re terming “The COVID-19 Slide.” Researchers predict this learning loss as a result of unprecedented nation-wide school closures due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Kuhfeld and Tarasawa project that students will return to school in fall 2020 “with roughly 70% of the learning gains in reading relative to a typical school year.” That number for mathematics lowers to 50% “and in some grades nearly a full year behind.”



Summer learning

As of early May, the district anticipated beginning Summer Academy on July 1 for a five-week program that meets mornings, Monday through Thursday. This is for grades K-6.

“We’re attempting to ascertain the most likely scenario the state will allow,” said Superintendent Mark Witty.

The district anticipates smaller class

sizes of 10 students to assure physical distance. Sites will be expanded to other schools, and protocols will be in place for sanitizing surfaces.

“To make sure kiddos are safe and secure,” Witty said.

Pre-registration is going on now. For more information, call Angela Lattin, Summer Academy coordinator, at 541-524-2450, extension 3010.

Witty said other programs are in the planning stages to address summer slide for grades 7-12.

Data collected from assessments at the beginning and end of the 2019 Summer Academy showed academic growth in both math and reading.

“We’ve got an effective program,” Witty said.

In past years, community partners have been a critical part of the success for Summer Academy activities and field trips, Witty said. Those partnerships will look different this year.

“Their health is also our concern,” Lattin said.

School, registration for 2020-2021

The state of Oregon’s plan for re-opening businesses and schools includes three phases.

After each phase, a 14-day period must pass that shows a downward trajectory of flu-like illnesses or confirmed cases of COVID-19 before the next phase can be implemented.

Phase two dictates that schools can reopen with physical distancing guidelines. Phase three is fully open.

Superintendent Mark Witty is expecting classes will resume next fall.

“I fully believe we’ll be an in-person school next fall,” he said.

However, he said this “recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic is not solved and community health is an

important factor.”

If the pandemic worsens in Baker County, it may be necessary to implement periods of online learning or a restricted mode with fewer students in the classrooms on a rotating basis.

“We recognize conditions might have a variety of educational platforms,” Witty said.

This spring the district created subcommittees to work on various facets of the pandemic response. Those committees are: mental health, grants, athletics, online registration, summer programming, sanitation, hygiene protocol and “teach-tos” for students, online systems, tech platform and software, child care, calendar and sched-

uling, transportation, food service, SPED/ELL/TAG, training topics and scheduling, communications, parent input, and equitable programs and services.

Registration

Registration may look different this year.

School registration is held in early August. This year may feature both on-site and off-site platforms for registering students.

Questions?

Those seeking more information about plans for the next school year can call Witty at 541-524-2260.