

# WINTER RENTAL GEAR HEATS UP



# The Bulletin

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SPORTS PULLOUT, B3-5

## COVID-19 | Evidence that the resurgent coronavirus has caused a spike in layoffs, A7

# Reopening plan now includes distance learning

### Bend schools will hire new teachers for online cohorts

BY JACKSON HOGAN  
The Bulletin

In Bend-La Pine Schools' initial plan to restart in-person learning in late January/early February, families were given two options: return

to classrooms, or enroll in Bend-La Pine Schools Online. Comprehensive distance learning — the system most students had participated in since the COVID-19 pandemic began in March 2020 — wasn't a choice.

But after federal COVID-19 funding became available to hire more teachers, Bend-La Pine changed course this week, informing families

that comprehensive distance learning would be a third option.

However, unlike spring and fall 2020, students that opt to stay in comprehensive distance learning will be placed in an online cohort of students from around the district, and they'll have new teachers.

This change in the comprehensive distance learning plan has drawn

mixed reactions from local parents and school staff.

"Ideally, everyone would be with their same teacher, but we have to be realistic," said Mariah Staats, a mother of two sons at Cascade Middle School, who plans to stick with comprehensive distance learning. "We're rolling with it; we're coming from a place of gratitude."

### How is comprehensive distance learning changing?

The differences between comprehensive distance learning and Bend-La Pine Schools Online can seem negligible at first glance. In both options, students learn from home using the internet. But beyond that, the two programs are quite different.

See **Reopening** / A6

## MOM-POWERED SLEDS



Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

With their two young daughters in tow, Emily Wiseman, left, and her friend Alexis Brandow laugh while cross-country skiing back to their vehicles after spending the afternoon at Wanaga Sno-park on Thursday. With clear skies and warmer temperatures forecast to continue through the weekend, check out today's paper for information on local trail and sno-parks. **Conditions report**, see B2.

# An unlicensed contractor targets locals with 'leftover asphalt' scam

### Wanted in three states, Johnson faces charges in Deschutes County

BY GARRETT ANDREWS  
The Bulletin

Francis Petersen was standing at the end of his long driveway in La Pine when he was approached by a friendly man with an offer. The

man said he was a contractor and he had some asphalt left over from his last job. Would Petersen like his driveway repaved at a discount?

Fast forward several years and \$45,000 — what Petersen ended up paying to repave his driveway — and he admits he never should have said yes.

Today, weeds grow through numerous cracks in the still-unfinished



Johnson

he charged me twice what it should have cost."

See **Scam** / A6

# Oregon has almost 200,000 unused COVID-19 vaccines

### The state's attempts to track them are a mess

BY ROB DAVIS  
The Oregonian

Oregon's tracking system for COVID-19 vaccines is riddled with errors, new data show, raising questions about the state's ability to efficiently get shots in arms and closely track bottlenecks as its urgent and unprecedented vaccination effort pre-

pares to expand.

Two hospitals haven't administered any shots, according to the state's inventory. The hospitals say they have. Some smaller recipients, including county health departments and fire districts, have more doses on hand than they were allocated, the result of untracked transfers. And more than 20 locations given small volumes of vaccine appear to have used none at all.

See **Vaccines** / A6

TODAY'S WEATHER Cloudy High 50, Low 28 Page B5

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