

# The Bulletin

EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY [bendbulletin.com](http://bendbulletin.com)

## Coronavirus in Central Oregon

# Summit High extends closure as outbreak grows

Bulletin staff report

An outbreak of COVID-19 traced to Summit High School students who attended a party a week ago had infected 24 students as of Saturday, and extended the closure of in-person classes at the Bend school through Friday.

According to an email from principal Michael McDonald sent to Summit High School families on Saturday, Deschutes County had confirmed 24 cases of COVID-19 among youth who attend Summit High and were primary or secondary

exposures from the party. McDonald said that while Summit had in-person classes Feb. 8 and 9, there was no confirmed spread of the virus at school.

However, to prevent the potential spread of the virus, the school will return to distance learning through Friday, with an expected return to in-person classes and activities Feb. 22. That will allow the equivalent of a 10-day quarantine from the last time students were in the school building with academics or activities, McDonald said.

Students who did not attend the party or have contact with those who did, and who have no symptoms, are considered low risk for COVID-19 exposure, McDonald said. But county health officials encouraged anyone who may have been in contact with others who were exposed or who live with elderly or medically fragile family members to consider isolating from those family members and assume the youth or adult may be contagious.

In preparation for the eventual return of in-person classes, school

district staff has completed a deep cleaning of classrooms and common areas in the school and left air scrubbers on overnight.

McDonald said he has heard expressions of frustration, anger and sadness from students, staff and families in regards to the outbreak.

"These are all reasonable responses," he said in the email. "We are here to connect with students who need support during this time. Please reach out to our counseling, nursing and administrative staff, visit our Student Mental Health webpage

or review our list of resources for mental health during COVID-19."

McDonald called the situation "a learning opportunity."

"We are all ready for the pandemic to be over and to 'go back to normal,'" he wrote. "But we are not there yet. We need to redouble our efforts at masking, distancing and staying home when ill if we want to resume some 'normal' activities, like in-person learning and athletics. We must all remember that our actions outside of school have a huge impact on what can happen inside our buildings."



## Winter wildlife »

BY RYAN BRENNECKE • The Bulletin

**ABOVE:** Snow cascades down as a mule deer nibbles on a cluster of berries while feeding on vegetation along Simpson Avenue in Bend on Saturday.

**RIGHT:** A pair of geese feed in a small area of open water as sheets of ice cover the Deschutes River near the Old Mill District following a frigid winter storm on Saturday. Monday is forecast to be partly sunny with a high near 45 degrees. **See Weather, A10 »**



**A duck glides slowly past a partially submerged speed sign at Clackamette Park, where the Clackamas and Willamette rivers meet in Oregon City in 1996. Researchers at Oregon State University have found that climate change will cause more severe flooding in the Columbia River Basin over the next half century.**

## OSU STUDY FINDS

# Climate change will exacerbate flooding in Columbia River Basin

BY KALE WILLIAMS  
The Oregonian

Flooding in the Columbia River Basin is expected to increase dramatically in scale over the next half decade as the climate warms, according to new research from Oregon State University.

The severity of floods large and small — on the Columbia, Willamette and Snake rivers, along with hundreds of smaller tributaries — will increase and, in some places, the flooding season will grow longer.

That's according to a new study

from researchers at the university, published last month in the journal Hydrology and Earth System Science.

"The flood you're used to seeing out your window once every 10 years will likely be larger than it has been in the past," the study's lead author, Laura Queen, a research assistant at OSU's Oregon Climate Change Research Institute, said in a statement.

Queen ran simulations using streamflow data collected from nearly 400 sites throughout the Columbia River Basin and western Washington.

The simulations included data from 1950 to 1999 and expected streamflow from 2050 to 2099.

"This was the best and most complete set of data," said co-author Philip Mote, a professor in the College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences and dean of the Graduate School at OSU. "It shows that the magnitude of one-, 10- and 100-year floods is likely to go up nearly everywhere in the region. These are profound shifts."

See **Flooding / A4**

TODAY'S WEATHER



A bit of rain  
High 45, Low 32  
Page A10

INDEX

Comics	A7-8	Kid Scoop	A9	Puzzles	A8
Dear Abby	A4	Local/State	A2-3	Sports	A5-6
Horoscope	A4	Nation/World	A4	Weather	A10

The Bulletin  
An Independent Newspaper

Monday E-Edition, 10 pages, 1 section

We use recycled newsprint



088267023291