

# Bend flips the script on Summit

PREP FOOTBALL • SPORTS, B1



# The Bulletin

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## BI-MART

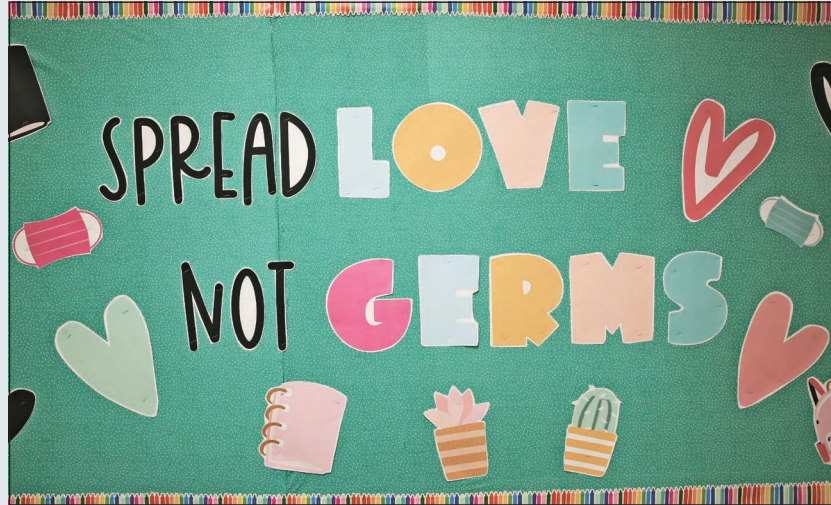
Our employee-owners wish you a **Happy Easter!**

We will be closed on Sunday, April 4, so that we can spend time with our families.



### CENTRAL OREGON'S LARGEST DISTRICTS

Schools are going back to classes full time.



# Now comes the hard part

➤ A sign reminds students to be safe at Juniper Elementary School as Bend-La Pine prepares for full five-day-a-week school in Bend on Thursday.  
Dean Guernsey/  
Bulletin photos



For the first time since March 2020, all Bend-La Pine, Redmond students will return to 5 full days a week

BY JACKSON HOGAN  
The Bulletin

**A**fter more than a year of school being fully online or only partly in-person, thousands of students in Bend-La Pine and Redmond school districts will soon return to full-time, in-person classes five days a week.

This change — which only became possible after the Oregon Department of Education shrunk the mandatory 6-foot social distancing rule for students to 3 feet in late March — is good news to educators in Central Oregon's two largest school districts.

"I've got a great class — they're super

excited to be back," said Carrie Price, a fourth grade teacher at Juniper Elementary School in northeast Bend. "This is what they need."

But transitioning the majority of students — grades 4-12 in Bend-La Pine, grades 6-12 in Redmond — from part-online to full-time classroom settings isn't as simple as moving desks closer together.

Completely shifting the logistics of school operations in the middle of the school year is difficult but worth it to get all students back full time, said Redmond Superintendent Charan Cline.

"We know this is good for kids, and frankly it's good for our staff," Cline said. "It's just that it takes time to make the switch."

In both school districts, younger students

➤ Carrie Price sets up her socially distanced classroom at Juniper Elementary on Thursday. Students are required to stay 3 feet away from one another in the classroom. As for going back to in-person classes? "I think the kids, some of them, have slipped into some patterns of school being somewhat optional on their home days," Price said. "We just have to trigger those memories about how to be at school."

— grades K-3 in Bend-La Pine and all elementary students in Redmond — have attended school full time for more than a month after schools began to reopen earlier this year.

In Bend-La Pine, students in grades 4-12 have attended in-person school twice a week, with the other three days learning entirely online.

See **Schools** / A6

# Madras seeks funds for homeless services

Year-round shelter serving wider region would be a first for the city

BY KYLE SPURR  
The Bulletin

Madras city officials are developing a plan to build a homeless services center that would provide a permanent, year-round location for those in need across the region.

The center would be a first for the city. The only option for homeless people in Madras is a temporary warming shelter that closed last month and is on land that was sold and will be redeveloped into a Starbucks coffee shop.

Rather than keep looking for temporary options, the city is working with the Jefferson County Faith Based Network to create the permanent shelter.

City and county officials will meet Wednesday to discuss applying for a Community Development Block Grant that could award up to \$1.5 million for a homeless services center in Madras. A location has not been identified for the center, but it will be in Madras and open to people across Jefferson County and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, according to the city.

See **Madras** / A7

### DESCHUTES

# River will rise as irrigation season begins

BY MICHAEL KOHN  
The Bulletin

The irrigation season is underway in Central Oregon, and residents will start to notice more water flowing down the Deschutes River and in the canals the river and its reservoirs feed.

The North Unit Irrigation District began letting more water into the Deschutes River from Wickiup Reservoir on Tuesday. The amount of water has steadily increased from around 100 cubic feet per second to around 375 cubic feet per second.

Conditions are being evaluated to determine when flows can be brought up to 600 cubic feet per second, according to Kyle Gorman, region manager for the Oregon Water Resources Department.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is evaluating Oregon spotted frog activity to determine when it is safe to allow more water into the river, Gorman said. Pushing too much water down the river at once can damage spotted frog breeding habitat.

See **Deschutes** / A5

TODAY'S WEATHER



Clouds and sun  
High 62, Low 28  
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SUNTHU

# Parade

## Parade Magazine will return next week!

Check next Sunday's Bulletin for this popular insert.

Parade publishes every Sunday except 4/4/21, 5/30/21, 7/4/21, 8/1/21, 9/5/21, 12/26/21