

# Dayville middle and high school students transition to distance learning

By Rudy Diaz  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Dayville middle and high school students have transitioned to distance learning after a positive case was confirmed at the school.

The transition to distance learning began Monday, April 26, and will last at least through May 6. The school plans to resume in-person classes on May 10.

Dayville elementary and preschool students will attend normally with in-person lessons.

Superintendent Kathryn Hedrick said the COVID-19 school metrics — which are different than the county metrics — went into extreme risk, which requires the school to close unless they offer on-site testing for COVID-19 with a parent's permission and notice. This was one reason for the closure, she said.

"That becomes kind of problematic for kids so we decided to wait it out," Hedrick said. "But for our littler kids, we would be prepared to do that with parent permission and notice."

Hedrick said they also have a number of interdistrict middle and high school transfer students that interact with Grant Union students and John Day

kids, which presents a possibility for exposure to COVID-19. Hedrick added that the school increasingly had kids that were in quarantine or were self-quaranting.

"Late today (April 19), we learned that Dayville School had one confirmed positive case," Hedrick said. "Exposure would have dated from Friday, (April) 16, and would have required being in proximity for a cumulative 15 minutes. We believe we have contacted directly those people."

Prairie City Superintendent Casey Hallgarth said Prairie City School will continue with onsite education. He said the school has five kids out right now to quarantine for close contact, but most of them returned on April 26. He said the school district continues to work with the Grant County Health Department and is following guidelines from the Oregon Department of Education.

"If we come to the conjecture that our kids aren't safe to be in school, then we definitely go that route," Hallgarth said.



Kathryn Hedrick



Laura Thomas



Casey Hallgarth



Contributed photo

**Dayville Superintendent Kathryn Hedrick said distance learning will continue until at least May 6.**

"Right now we don't feel like that's the case for our school district."

Monument Superintendent Laura Thomas said they have not had any presumptive or confirmed cases of COVID-19 on campus since they had their short moment of distance learning in early January.



Eagle file photo

**The main building at Dayville School. Middle and high school students have transitioned to distance learning.**

"As always, I would work closely with the Grant County Health Department to determine if there was a need to transition to distance learning, but at this point in time, I am thankful to not see any need for our district to transition to distance learning," Thomas said.

Long Creek Office Manager Jennifer Garinger said they are still open for their hybrid schedule and that Long Creek does not have any positive cases in the town. She said their hybrid schedule consist of students being at school two days a week for half days and

continuing the school work online.

"We're still open because we still don't have any active cases reported here in Long Creek," Garinger said. "We're being cautious, and we're keeping a close watch on the number, ready to pivot at any time."

## Long, Weaver make OSU honor roll

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Names of students who have made the scholastic honor roll winter 2021 have been announced by Oregon State University.

A total of 8,150 students earned a B-plus (3.5) or better to make the listing. To be on the honor roll, students must carry at least 12 graded hours of course work.

Grant County students on the honor roll included Johna M. Long, a freshman studying nutrition, and Wyatt T. Weaver, a senior studying mechanical engineering, both from John Day.

## Grant School District returns to in-person classes

Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant School District 3 schools returned to on-site education on April 26.

Superintendent Bret Uptmor said they have been monitoring the COVID-19 data on a daily basis and reviewed current information with the Grant County Health Department Thursday morning.

The local health authorities were supportive of the

school's decision to move back to on-site instruction for Humbolt Elementary and Grant Union Junior/Senior High School.

"We know the five days of school in a (distance learning) platform created anxiety for both staff, students and parents," Uptmor said in a press release. "We want to thank each of you for your work to address the outbreak of COVID in our community."

## Republican Central Committee meets April 29

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The Grant County Republican Central Committee will meet at 3 p.m. Thursday, April 29, at the home of Frances Preston, 121 S. Washington St., Prairie City. The public is welcome.

## Cattlemen offer conference scholarships to young ranchers

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The Oregon Cattlemen's Association is excited to announce the opportunity for six young ranchers to attend the OCA Mid-Year Conference, July 11-13, at the Salishan Coastal Lodge. This scholarship opportunity is available to young ranchers interested in learning more about the work of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association. The scholarship will cover the expense of lodging and event registration.

Candidates must be able to attend the full conference and be willing to participate in all facets. This is an excellent opportunity for young ranchers to immerse themselves in the work and mission of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association for the future of the cattle industry.

The application can be found at [orcattle.com](http://orcattle.com). Any questions may be addressed to the OCA office at 503-361-8941.

## OBITUARIES

### Sue Miller

Sue Miller, 71, passed away peacefully March 27, 2021, at OHSU surrounded by her husband, Nick, and her family. She was diagnosed with cancer in 2019. Although this incurable disease ultimately proved to be terminal, Sue handled its debilitating nature with grace.

Sue was born on Jan. 10, 1950, in Hillsboro, Oregon, to Fred and Helen Ireland and was the middle child of seven. At the age of 10, the Ireland family moved to Sublimity where she attended St. Boniface Grade School. After graduating from Regis High School, Sue attended Southern Oregon College and Oregon State University majoring in art. She went on to work as a secretary at Stayton Canning Company and met her husband of 42 years, Nick and Sue lived in Stayton for 23 years. They moved to John Day where Sue developed her love of quilting and enjoyed many quilting retreats with her friends. She worked for Grant County and the OSU Extension Office and earned her certification as a master gardener. In 2012, they retired to Prineville where they built their home together.

Sue is survived by her husband, Nick, six siblings and many nieces and nephews.

If you would like to donate in her memory, a contribution can be made to the Humane Society of the Ochocos, 1280 S. Tom McCall Road, Prineville, OR 97754.

A memorial service has been held at Sue's childhood church, St. Boniface Catholic Church in Sublimity, Oregon.

**NATIONAL Sexual Assault AWARENESS & PREVENTION MONTH**

Help is available for victims of sexual assault in Grant County.

If you or someone you know has been a victim of sexual assault, please call:

Heart of Grant County  
541-620-1342

Grant County Victim Assistance Program  
541-575-4026

Remember: sex without consent = sexual assault

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Designed by the Blue Mountain Eagle

Robbins Farm Equipment

3850 10th St.  
Baker City  
541-523-6377

62302 Pierce Rd.  
La Grande  
541-963-6577

1160 S Egan Burns  
541-573-6377

86812 Christmas Valley Hwy.  
Christmas Valley  
541-576-2160

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- Cocoon
- WIC
- High Risk Infants
- Maternity Case Management

Grant County HEALTH Department

528 E. Main, St. E., John Day

Monday - Thursday  
7am - 6pm  
Friday 8am - 5pm

Appointments available

Call and schedule your appointment today!

888-443-9104  
or 541-575-0429

Last Week's Temps

John Day	HI/LO
Tuesday .....	62/30
Wednesday .....	66/32
Thursday .....	66/34
Friday .....	64/34
Saturday .....	53/41
Sunday .....	53/36
Monday .....	54/34

24/7 FORECAST  
AUTOMATED: 541-575-1122  
ROAD CONDITIONS: 511; TRIPCHECK.COM  
NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR JOHN DAY  
162.500 MHZ

WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 28 - MAY 4

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Mostly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Slight chance of showers	Mostly sunny	Sunny	Cloudy
68	81	79	68	62	66	66
39	47	46	40	35	32	36