

Bicyclist hit by train in Kelso, Wash.

A bicyclist who was riding on or crossing railroad tracks was struck and pinned by a southbound Burlington Northern Santa Fe train in Kelso, Wash., late Tuesday night.

The man, whose name had not been released, was taken to St. John Medical Center in critical condition.

Train operators called in the accident shortly before 11 p.m. When police and rescue personnel arrived at the crash site between Allen Street and Cowlitz Way, they found a bicycle and, a few minutes later, the male victim pinned under the train, still conscious, but severely injured.

With assistance from the rail company, 80 feet of train was uncoupled and a coordi-



Medics work to stabilize a bicyclist that was hit by a train in Kelso and pinned underneath. He survived the accident, but was in critical condition.

Courtesy
Cowlitz Fire

nated slow move was made over the top of the victim while medics worked to stabilize the man, said Lt. Dan Cothren of Cowlitz County Fire & Rescue.

A trauma team was activated and, when the patient was freed about 11:30 p.m., he was immediately treated and rushed to the hospital.

“While pedestrian/train accidents are rare, they are almost always preventable,” Cothren wrote. “No one should ever travel on a railway or cross railways other than at approved crossings. There is a crossing in the area of the incident, but none where the victim was struck.”

Schools: Developing next-year’s plan is tricky

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Fortunately, initial guidance from the state will not require students to wear masks.

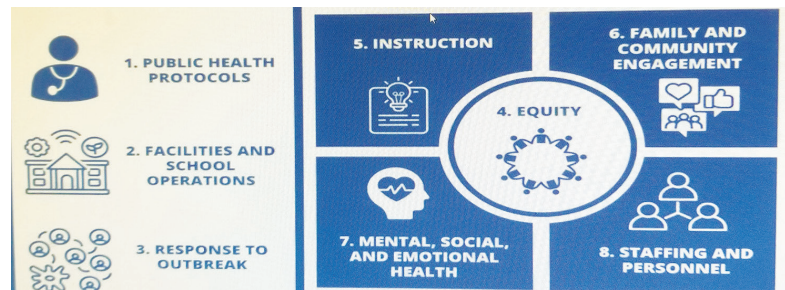
Bus drivers, cafeteria workers and staff members who regularly get within 6 feet of students or other staff will be required to wear them. Language pathologists and front-office staff will be protected by plastic face shields or barriers.

Parents also were uncomfortable – 77 percent -- with scheduled-only restroom access and no physical education or recess. Meals in the classroom, however, was acceptable to most parents.

Rogozinski also gave the results of a survey of teachers.

When asked how their students did during distance learning, almost 90 percent said less or much less. Teachers also weren’t keen on mostly distance learning in the coming school year.

Members of the district’s



administrative staff also were online, fielding parents’ questions.

One parent asked how the district will handle siblings. Will they have the same off/on days.

“In the event we do move to the model presented, we would be working to ensure siblings attended school on the same days,” responded Ian O’Brien, high school vice principal. “As a parent myself of grades PK, K and eighth, this will be important.”

Another parent wrote in asking whether consideration would be made for students with working parents.

“Yes, this is at the forefront

of our minds ... and how it will impact families, both single parents who work and families with both parents working, especially if we are unable to attend school daily,” O’Brien wrote.

Students in athletics and music programs could see some big changes, but details haven’t been worked out yet.

Staffing is another unknown. “If our commitment is what it should be – to provide the best for every student – we’re going to need all hands on deck,” Rogozinski said. “We’re really pushing to get this as right as possible ... Relationships matter. They are central.”

Patriots demonstration



Clatsop County Patriots held an “Open Carry Independence Day Flag Wave” in front of the post office on July 4. Participants were urged to bring flags, food, folding chairs and “your favorite open-carry firearms.” Warrenton and Oregon State Police had a heavy presence nearby. The group plans a second demonstration on Sunday, July 12, as well as a hot dog roast the following day in support of Officer Robert Wirt, who is on administrative leave.

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