

# Miller Elementary School Newsletter



October 24, 2019

## Note from the Principal:

Happy almost November! There is a lot of important information in the newsletter this month so please read carefully. Our teachers are looking forward to meeting with families at conferences to discuss students' progress and they will send information home soon.

Sincerely,

Laura Mata

## SCHOOL MESSENGER

At the start of each school year, information from student registration forms is input into the student information database.

SchoolMessenger, the system the district uses to send out phone notification to parents, receives updated information from this database once each day.

**It is very important that parents keep their contact information current. Be sure to let your school office know if you have a new address, email or phone number.**

The parent or guardian marked as the primary contact in the student information system will receive automated communication. Messages will also be sent to the student's home phone number contained in the database, if different from the primary contact phone

**NOVEMBER 1-30**

IN DISTRICT TRANSFER  
(IDT)

APPLICATION WINDOW

Don't Miss the

**DEADLINE!**

### *A message from Health Services:*

Flu season has begun, and it's a good time to get vaccinated

Other ways people can help prevent flu:

- Stay home and limit contact with others if you are sick, including staying home from work or school when you are sick.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue out when you are done.
- Wash hands with soap and water. Use an alcohol-based hand rub if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may have flu germs on them.
- Avoid getting coughed and sneezed on.

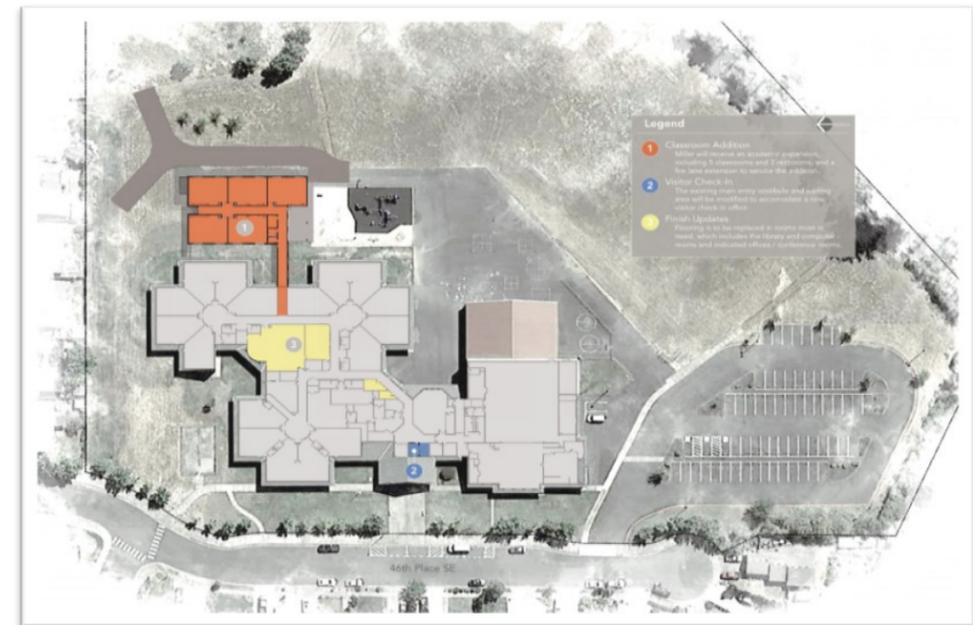
See page 4 for the November calendar

## Update on Bond-Funded Construction for Miller Elementary School

Thanks to voters in Salem and Keizer, Miller will be receiving a lot of upgrades next year! In May 2018, voters approved a \$619.7 million bond to fund improvements all across the school district. Many schools in Salem and Keizer will receive improvements to relieve overcrowding, improve safety and security, and much more.

The scope of work originally planned for Miller was expanded following a recommendation from the Boundary Review Task Force. Noting long-term enrollment projections, the Task Force recommended expansion at Miller instead of boundary adjustments to meet the projected need.

Highlights of plans for Miller include adding five new classrooms, two additional restrooms, construction of a secured vestibule at the front entry and more. About \$4.6 million will be invested in improvements at Miller! At the end of last school year, a team of representatives from Miller held several meetings with architects from CB Two Architects and district Construction Services staff to make plans that include the location of the new spaces and other design decisions. Miller staff contributed important perspective on the needs of students and the school.



Over the summer, architects worked to refine these designs into very detailed drawings and instructions that the building contractor will use to construct the new spaces. A contractor will be hired soon. Construction was originally planned to start at the end of this school year (June 2020), however options to start work a bit earlier are being considered. Construction is estimated to take between nine and 12 months to complete.

Whether construction begins at the start of summer or earlier, **Miller will be under construction for at least part of the next school year, (2020-21) and the campus will be closed this summer.** Construction will cause some disruption to normal school operations, but our administrative team will work with contractors to minimize the impact to the instructional day. The district has already completed one renovation; Gubser Elementary School celebrated completion of work with a ribbon cutting ceremony at the start of the school year. Four other schools are currently in active construction during the school day. Our district is adept at operating schools while under construction.

Thanks to the community's support of the 2018 bond, Miller will soon provide a safer, less crowded and more productive learning environment for our students. For more information about bond-funded construction in Salem-Keizer Public Schools, please visit [www.salemkeizer.org/projects-status](http://www.salemkeizer.org/projects-status)

## 2019-20 Annual Notice for Statewide Tests

### ALL STUDENTS GRADUATE PREPARED

In 2010, Oregon adopted higher K-12 standards in English Language Arts and Math to ensure all students move from grade to grade with the academic knowledge and skills necessary for success beyond high school. Because we raised the bar for what we expect students to know and be able to do, we have also changed the way we measure student progress through our state tests, known as Smarter Balanced.

#### Why does participation matter?

While no single test can give a complete picture of your child's progress, having your child take the statewide tests provides educators and administrators with information about what educational approaches are working and where additional resources are needed. Your child's participation is important to ensure schools and districts receive the targeted resources they need to help all students succeed.

#### Description of rights

House Bill 2655 permits parents and adult students to annually opt-out of Oregon's statewide summative tests in English Language Arts and Math by submitting an annual form to the school the student attends. Schools will provide parents with the annual form for 2019-20 at least 30 days prior to the start of testing. Visit this link to learn more about House Bill 2655: <http://tinyurl.com/OR-HB2655>.

### STATEWIDE TESTING WINDOWS

English Language Arts & Math Tests  
January 7 – June 5, 2020

### STAY INFORMED

Talk to your child's teacher or school principal if you have questions or want to learn more.

#### Resources

To learn more about what your child should know and be able to do in English Language Arts & Math:

<http://tinyurl.com/ELARoadmap> & <http://tinyurl.com/MathRoadmap>

To view sample test questions: <http://tinyurl.com/ORPracticeTests>

To read more about your child's test results: <http://tinyurl.com/ORTestResults>

### OREGON'S STATE TESTS

- Challenge your child to think critically and apply his or her knowledge to real-world problems
- Go beyond multiple choice and ask your child to explain his or her answers
- Act as a snapshot of your child's progress and may be considered along with other pieces of information to determine your child's academic success
- Help identify schools and districts that need additional supports to ensure more students are meeting higher standards

#### When will my child take the test?

Your child will be tested once after he or she has completed at least two-thirds of the school year. Your child's school will determine the specific dates your child takes the tests within the statewide testing window.



## NOVEMBER

Sun day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Satur day
				31 Halloween! (School appropriate costumes welcome!)	1 No School- Grading day	2
3	4 PTT Meeting @3:45	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 No School Veteran's Day	12	13 Picture Retake Day	14 Butterbraid Pick-Up 3:00-5:00	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 NO SCHOOL Conferences 8am-8pm  Book fair!	26 NO SCHOOL Conferences 8am-8pm  Book fair!	27 NO SCHOOL	28 NO SCHOOL 	29 NO SCHOOL	30

# 2019-20 Calendar for Parents

The following calendar lists key dates for Salem-Keizer Public Schools.  
Please note that individual schools might have additional key dates, so check with your local school.



## Key Dates for 2019-20

Sept. 2: No school  
Sept. 3: First day for grades 6 and 9  
Sept. 4: First day for grades 1-5, 7-8, 10-12  
Sept. 11: First day for all Kindergarten

Oct. 10: No school for 6-12 grade students  
Oct. 11: No school

Nov. 1: No school for K-5 grade students  
Nov. 11: No school and district offices are closed  
Nov. 25-29: No school for all students  
Nov. 28-29: District offices are closed

Dec. 23-31: No school - Winter Break  
Dec. 24-25: District offices are closed

Jan. 1-3: No school - Winter Break  
Jan. 1: District offices are closed  
Jan. 20: No school and district offices are closed  
Jan. 24: No school

Feb. 17: No school

March 6: No school  
March 19-20: No school  
March 23-27: No school - Spring Break

April 24: No school

May 25: No school and district offices are closed

June 3-5: High school graduation  
June 9: Last day for K-5 grade students  
June 10: Last day for 6-11 grade students

*February 17, Presidents Day may be used as an optional make-up day for an emergency closure that occurs prior to Winter Break.*

*Days may be added in June to make up for emergency closures. As much as possible, lost instructional time will be made up with instructional time.*

For additional calendars, please visit the district website at [salemkeizer.org/yearly-calendars](http://salemkeizer.org/yearly-calendars)

September 2019				
M	T	W	Th	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

October 2019				
M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

November 2019				
M	T	W	Th	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

December 2019				
M	T	W	Th	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

January 2020				
M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

February 2020				
M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

March 2020				
M	T	W	Th	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

April 2020				
M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

May 2020				
M	T	W	Th	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

June 2020				
M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

These are the key dates for the 2019-20 school year listing no school days, district office closures and other significant dates.