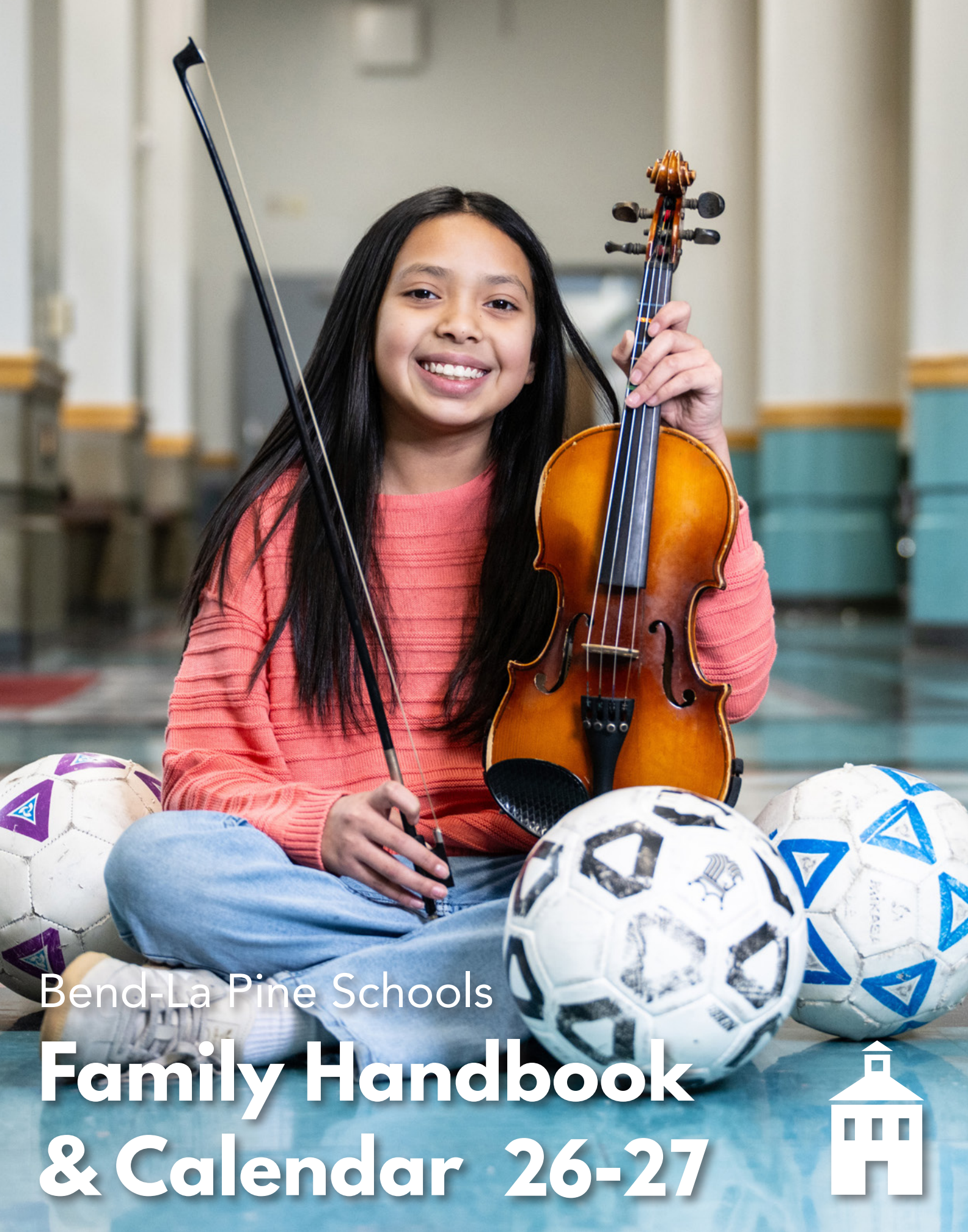


Bend-La Pine Schools

Family Handbook & Calendar 26-27

Welcome to Bend-La Pine Schools



Greetings and welcome to the 2026-27 school year in Bend-La Pine Schools!

It is my honor to serve as your Superintendent in partnership with 32 school communities with over 18,000 students and staff members. We aspire to provide an environment where every student and employee can thrive in our District.

As District leaders we continue to implement the vision and goals set by our elected Board of Directors. These encompass our dedication to providing a strong academic foundation for students; ensuring that our students, families and staff experience wellness, inclusivity and belonging in our schools; and creating systems so that students find their passion, purpose and plan for their future.

Learning is at the center of everything we do. We strive to help our youngest learners learn to read and develop essential language skills, unlock the wonders of science and math, and guide older students in discovering the technical skills and knowledge that pave the way for future careers. Our devoted staff members uphold high expectations for our students, all while deeply caring for their individual well-being.

We build strong connections and relationships with our students, nurturing their sense of belonging within our school communities. We endeavor to develop the whole child, promoting dignity, empathy, kindness and support for others, while fostering curiosity about their world and assisting all students in realizing their full potential as they navigate their journey to find their passions and purpose.

This Family Handbook & Calendar is your guide to the start of the school year and a resource for milestones throughout the year. I invite you to flip through these pages to see what's new, and to enjoy the 14 students selected to represent our schools in the calendar pages. Also, check out the "what to know" monthly tips following the calendar pages.

Our schools play a vital role in creating and nurturing learning environments that inspire and support students in pursuit of their dreams. The involvement of our families and communities make this possible. Thank you for helping us achieve our goals!

Dr. Steven Cook

Bend-La Pine Schools
Superintendent

BEND LA PINE SCHOOLS

Board of Directors

The Bend-La Pine Schools Board of Directors typically meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held at 5:30 p.m. at the Education Center, 520 NW Wall Street, Bend, Oregon, in Room 314, unless otherwise noted.

Board meetings, except Executive Session, are open to the public. Business meetings are a time in which regular business is completed, actions are taken, and public comment is received. Work Sessions are a time for the Board to engage in discussion on key Board work initiatives. All meetings are live streamed on the School Board YouTube channel. Meeting schedules, agendas and minutes of previous meetings are posted on our district website at blschools.org.



Top row from left: Marcus LeGrand, Shirley Olson, Ross Tomlin, Jenn Lynch. Bottom row from left: Cameron Fischer, Kina Chadwick, Amy Tatom.

POLICY GOVERNANCE

The Bend-La Pine Schools Board of Directors is focused on policies promoting student achievement and creating outstanding schools. With that aim, the board is using a policy governance model focused on broad goals — including what Bend-La Pine Schools graduates should know and be able to do.

The board members communicate their overall goals and what they expect to be accomplished to the superintendent. How these goals are achieved is left up to the district's professional staff. By delegating and directing the superintendent, the board is able to focus on more broad issues while evaluating the end results.

MISSION and BELIEFS

Educating Thriving Students

Public education is the foundation of a thriving democracy, molding our collective future. We commit to providing the absolute best teaching and learning possible to our students. This means understanding quality teaching and the ways students learn best. It also means deeply knowing each student and tailoring instruction to meet their needs.

OUR PROMISE

Every student in Bend-La Pine Schools is known by name, strengths, and needs, and graduates ready for college, career and community engagement.

OUR GOALS

- Students are engaged and develop a strong academic foundation
- Students have a passion, purpose, and plan for their future
- Students, families, and staff experience wellness, inclusion, and belonging in our schools
- Operational systems align and support an academically effective and sustainable organization

OUR COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS & FAMILIES

Staff will continue to develop the knowledge, skills and dispositions that promote high levels of learning for all students, and which create environments where all students and families feel valued and welcomed, particularly those who have been historically underserved.

We commit to partnering with our community to co-design student-centered systems that best match our region's needs and values, even as they change.

In our innovation and decision-making processes, we will actively seek the voices and partnership of our stakeholders.

We honor the different political beliefs, social values, and lived experiences our students, families, and staff bring to our classrooms and district. We invite different values and viewpoints, as long as they do not promote racism, hate, or discrimination.

Find our Commitment to Equal Educational Opportunities and Equity Stance at bls.fyi/excellence-and-equity

Instruction

ELEMENTARY INSTRUCTION

The elementary school core curriculum focuses on the subjects of language arts (including reading and writing), math, physical education, music/art/STEAM skills, while building community and relationships within the classroom. Additional content taught and integrated into the core subjects include science, social science, life and career readiness skills, and health. Literacy and math instruction is a critical part of every elementary student's academic development, so principals and teachers are encouraged to structure the school day so that literacy and math instruction is a priority. Bend-La Pine Schools also strives to provide additional academic support for students who need it.

MIDDLE SCHOOL INSTRUCTION

Middle school students have unique needs and require special attention during their transitional years. These students vary in physical, intellectual, psychological and emotional development. To meet these needs, middle schools strive to provide high academic expectations for all, to develop positive attitudes toward learning and future readiness, and to transition successfully between elementary and high school. The typical course load for a middle school student consists of Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, PE/Health, and electives.

HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUCTION

High schools offer core classes as well as a variety of electives. Many classes provide students the opportunity to earn college credits and develop career-oriented skills while in high school. Our high school course catalog is available on each school's website. Students have the opportunity to earn an Honors Diploma by taking four years of math and science and participating in advanced placement, college dual credit and/or International Baccalaureate coursework. High schools also offer a wide range of academic clubs and co-curricular activities from music to drama and sports.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Bend-La Pine Schools offers a variety of individualized programs and services to meet the unique gifts and challenges of the students in our district. We provide a full continuum of special education services and placements for qualifying students ages 5-21. Most of the services are offered in students' neighborhood schools and general education classrooms. District and off campus alternative programs are also available.

For more information about the services offered through the Special Programs Department, call 541-355-1060.

2026-27 ABOUT US

Bend-La Pine by the Numbers

ABOUT OUR STUDENTS

16,044 Enrolled

76% White

14% Hispanic/Latino

6% Multiracial

3% Asian

2% Black

13% Students with disabilities

5% English language learners

40 Languages spoken

22% Experiencing poverty

4% Lack stable housing

22% Served by Family Access Network



ABOUT OUR STAFF

1857 Employees

2nd Largest Employer in Central Oregon

919 Teachers/Certified Staff

16 Years Average Experience for Teachers

47 National Board Certified Teachers

803 Support Staff

SCHOOLS

16 Elementary (K-5)

3 Magnet (Elementary)

2 K-8

7 Middle (6-8)

6 High (9-12)



OUR GRADUATES

85.8% Graduation Rate (2025)

41% Earned Honors Diploma (2026)

9% Earned Seal of Biliteracy/Multiliteracy (2026)

58% Took AP courses with passing grade

70% College-bound

17% Workforce, Apprenticeship, Trade School or Military



ACADEMIC PATHWAYS

1,229 5th graders attend Outdoor School

806 In Spanish Dual Immersion (K–12)

32 Career Technical Education programs

33 AP Courses

18 IB Courses (Bend Senior High)

42 College Dual Credit Courses (COCC + others)



2026-27 BACK TO SCHOOL BASICS

ENROLLMENT

New to Bend-La Pine Schools? We can't wait to meet you! Go to bls.fyi/enrollment to begin your enrollment process.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Wednesday, September 9 – 1st Day for grades 1-6, 9
Thursday, September 10 – All students attend in grades 1-12
Friday, September 11 – All students attend at all grade levels*

*Families of kinders should watch for communication from their schools about their start date, which may be earlier than September 11.

BELL SCHEDULE

- Elementary: 7:45 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.
- Middle: 8:45 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.
- High: 8:45 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.
- Three Rivers School: 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- Westside Village: 8:35 a.m. - 3:35 p.m.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT WEDNESDAYS

Beginning September 16, students will be released 90 minutes early every Wednesday. This is an important time for your child's teacher to improve student learning and achievement through collaboration, training, enrichment, and professional growth. When teachers have the weekly opportunity to discuss effective teaching methods, cooperatively design teaching materials, and coach one another, our schools make significant improvements.

SCHOOL CLOSURES

The school year calendar is designed to meet instructional hour requirements set by the State of Oregon. The district has designated four dates (June 22, 23, 24, 25) as potential makeup school days for extended school closures resulting from circumstances such as inclement weather or emergencies. Accordingly, the school calendar is subject to change during the school year as circumstances warrant. Any updates to the school calendar can be found at our website.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

In Bend-La Pine Schools, all of the materials students need for instruction are provided. Families are welcome to provide personal items such as backpacks, water bottles, and headphones.

HOLIDAYS & BREAKS

Sept 7.....Labor Day
Sept 9.....1st Day of School, Grades 1-6, 9
Sept 10.....All students attend in grades 1-12
Sept 11..... All students attend at all grade levels
Oct 23.....No school Realms Middle and DRHS only
Oct 28-30...No school elementary/middle school students
Nov 11.....Veterans Day Holiday
Nov 23-27.....Thanksgiving Break
Dec 4.....No school Realms Middle, DRHS, LPHS only
Dec 21-Jan 1.....Winter Break
Jan 18.....Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday
Feb 5.....No school except LPHS
Feb 15.....Presidents' Day Holiday
Mar17-18....No school elementary/middle school students
Mar 19.....No school, all students
Mar 22-26.....Spring Break
Apr 30.....No school Realms Middle, DRHS only
May 31.....Memorial Day Holiday
June 17.....Last Day of School
June 22-25.....Possible inclement weather make-up



FAMILY ACCESS NETWORK (FAN)

If your family needs help securing a personal item, reach out to your school's FAN advocate for support. Your Family Access Network Advocate is here to assist all families with children, birth through graduation. If you have questions about Wi-Fi connectivity, Oregon Health Plan, food, rent, or utility help, reach out. Their goal is to make sure that your child has everything they need to be ready to learn. Go to bls.fyi/fan.

VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

If you plan on visiting your child's school, don't forget your government-issued photo ID. It must be shown at each and every school visit. You may be visiting for a concert, to enjoy lunch with your student, or to participate in an IEP meeting. Whatever the reason, safety procedures remain in place to keep our school community safe. All visitors must sign in at school during regular business hours using our Raptor kiosk, the digital sign-in roster. It is critical to know who is in our schools at all times, and no exceptions can be made in this process.



ENGAGE WITH US

We want to hear from you! Use the Engage With Us button on our website to connect with school and district staff, ask questions, request information, submit a safety tip, and offer feedback.



EMERGENCY AND SAFETY

Safe schools are fundamental to the success of students in Bend-La Pine Schools. Our District Safety Team takes a comprehensive approach to safety hazards that is modeled on the five phases of emergency management: prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

Bend-La Pine Schools participates in the I Love U Guys Foundation, a research-based crisis response program, to train staff and students on how to respond to varying levels of emergencies. Our district works to comply with state-mandated training requirements while ensuring students and staff feel safe and empowered to make decisions.

Bend-La Pine Schools views safety as a shared responsibility between our District Safety Team, staff members, families, and community partners. One of the most vital community partnerships is our School Resource Officer Program with the Bend Police Department and Deschutes County Sheriff's Department. We encourage open dialogue with families who have safety concerns or are looking for information on our district safety measures.

We look forward to a wonderful year continuing to build an environment where all students feel safe and can achieve their goals!

STAY CONNECTED

NEW

Stay in the loop regarding all important information. Be sure to verify your ParentSquare account to ensure you receive timely news and school updates, including emergency alerts and weather closures. Go to bls.fyi/psq.

MORE WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

Visit our website: blschools.org

- Visit our social media pages:
- **Facebook English**: @BendLaPineSchools
- **Facebook Spanish**: @EscuelasdeBendLaPine
- **Instagram English**: @BendLaPineSchools
- **Instagram Spanish**: @EscuelasdeBendLaPine
- **Nextdoor**: @BendLaPineSchools

Read our district newsletter - Family Spotlight. Read past newsletters at bls.fyi/familyspotlight.

MEALS

All schools in the District qualify for the federal Community Eligibility Provision program. All students are eligible to receive one free breakfast and one free lunch each school day. No application is required.

Daily menus including nutritional information and allergens can be found on our website. Parents/guardians of students with special dietary needs may reach out to their school nurse.



TRANSPORTATION

Is your student riding a bus this year? Bus routes can be found at bls.fyi/bus. New and returning riders need to be registered to ride before the first week of school. Log into your ParentVUE account and use the Online Registration tool.

Visit bls.fyi/bus to learn about the app that sends push notifications to your mobile device for school bus updates.



WELLNESS CHECKS AND SPORTS PHYSICALS

Parents/guardians of athletes and non-athletes alike are encouraged to consider an annual Wellness Check – a complete medical examination and screen for common health issues. Wellness Check visits are vital to children's healthy growth and development. Physicians suggest adolescents should have regular wellness visits to make sure they are developing at the expected pace and continue to remain healthy.

During these visits, families may have the opportunity to discuss a child's growth, development, behavior and other health issues with the goal of preventing illness and promoting the best possible health for students.

Students must have a physical exam by a medical practitioner in order to participate in extracurricular sports. Sports physicals are valid for two years. To include a sports physical during a student's wellness check, bring a copy of the OSAA School Sports Pre-Participation Examination form to be filled out by a health care provider at the student's appointment. This form can be found at bls.fyi/OSAAsportsform for download or at your school's Athletics and Activities Office. The completed Sports Pre-Participation Examination form may be returned to the Athletics and Activities Office, or uploaded to FinalForms, which allows you to complete and sign athletic participation forms for your student.

HEALTHY SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

Help keep our school communities healthy and know when to keep your child at home. For health guidance, go to bls.fyi/HealthInfo. You will also find information about medication use, injury, student mental health, and more.

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Bend-La Pine Schools has a comprehensive suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention plan. Each school/program has staff trained to screen for suicide and procedures on how to respond, which always includes communication with the parent/guardian. For more information, go to our Suicide Prevention Protocol at bls.fyi/adis-act.



STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Bend-La Pine Schools administers policies adopted by its Board of Directors as well as administrative policies and regulations to ensure the fair treatment of students, families and the public, and the orderly operation of schools. The District's Student Code of Conduct, available at bls.fyi/codeofconduct, outlines the rights and responsibilities of students, families/guardians, and educators/school personnel. The District strives to enforce all policies, administrative regulations, and practices consistently, fairly, and without bias. Please review the Student Code of Conduct to be familiar with these rights, responsibilities, policies and regulations.



Additional important information for students and families is available on our District website in Policy Governance, including student educational records and disclosure, non-discrimination, custody and parenting time, and security video. Use the QR code below to search policies.



ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Any student who participates in school-sponsored athletics or activities must sign a contract to abide by District Administrative Policies and Rules, Athletic Code of Conduct, building rules and team participation/training regulations. All students who participate in athletics and extracurricular activities are expected to be positive role models in their communities and beyond at all times. The signed participation contract shall be in effect at all times during the contract period, 24 hours a day, every day of the week whether at school or away from school. The contract will be in effect from the beginning of the OSAA calendar (see osaa.org annual dates) and conclude with the last day of school.



IMMUNIZATIONS

Parents/guardians must provide a student's proof of compliance with Oregon immunization laws before enrolling or continuing attendance. For more information, visit bls.fyi/immunizationinfo.

INSURANCE

Are you covered? Bend-La Pine Schools does not carry accident insurance for students. This means that you are responsible for the medical bills if your child gets hurt during school activities. As a service to you and your child, Bend-La Pine Schools does provide access to a voluntary, low-cost student accident and sickness insurance program that families may purchase through Myers-Stevens & Toohey, Inc. Learn more at bls.fyi/insurance.

2026-27 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

BEND-LA PINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Since 1988, the Bend-La Pine Education Foundation has served as an independent, nonprofit organization that includes parents, civic and business leaders, educators and concerned citizens who believe a vibrant K-12 public school system is essential to the social and economic well-being of our community. With guidance from the Foundation's Board of Directors, funding priorities are set to generate opportunities to engage students, parents, teachers and community partners in creating and participating in a well-rounded and robust learning environment.

The Education Foundation provides tools and financial resources that support schools, teachers and students through our programs that have an impact district-wide. Through volunteerism, donations, sponsorships and fundraising events we seek to sustain Foundation programs that are designed:

- To increase educational and extra-curricular opportunities for all district students
- To encourage creative and innovative curricula for STEM, art, music and wellness programs

Since 1988, the Education Foundation has invested more than $2.85 million into our local public schools. For more information, visit blpedfoundation.org.

Thanks to our wonderful community business partners and individual supporters, we work together to enhance K-12 education in Bend, La Pine and Sunriver.



FAMILY ACCESS NETWORK (FAN)

FAN advocates link children and families to critical basic need services with the goal of keeping children healthy and in school. FAN provides a direct and convenient way within the school to connect children to vital resources, and coordinates with over 100 partners to ensure those in need are assisted quickly. FAN advocates support our highest-needs families, removing barriers and paving the way for a child's success. Every year, FAN advocates improve the lives of nearly 8,000 children and family members in our community. Learn more at bls.fyi/fan.

Financial assistance

If your family needs assistance with exam fees, athletic participation fees, travel sports scholarships and other resources, please fill out the Family Income Survey and return it to your school office or Family Access Network (FAN) advocate. All information is confidential. To learn more about potential fee assistance and to access the application, go to bls.fyi/FeeAssistance.

BEND PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT

Bend-La Pine Schools and the Bend Park & Recreation District have a long-term partnership focused on supporting students and families, through which we share resources and co-host a variety of programs. Notable joint efforts include the Kids Inc after-school program, On the Road to Kindergarten park registration tour, and the daily summer meal distribution program.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF CENTRAL OREGON

Bend-La Pine Schools and Boys & Girls Club of Central Oregon share a common goal of supporting youth in our community. The Boys & Girls Club downtown facility, originally the Bend High School gymnasium, serves as a hub for educational and enrichment opportunities and is the home of summer and after-school programs.

CAMP FIRE CENTRAL OREGON

Camp Fire Central Oregon plays a pivotal role in support of our families, delivering after-school care and youth development opportunities for our elementary students. Their commitment to stepping in when needs arise has made them an invaluable partner in helping us ensure consistent support for our students beyond the school day.

Find more community partners at bls.fyi/partners.



SEPTEMBER

Senior Kellen and sophomore Alexis represent the coming together of two school communities as Deschutes River High School opens its doors. They are helping shape a new tradition that blends hands-on learning, Career & Technical Education, and EL Education into one shared future.

Turn to page 33 for September highlights

- ParentSquare
- Assessments

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	August 2026 S M T W T F S 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
6	Labor Day Holiday **7**	No School **8**	1st Day of School (Grades 1-6 and 9) Staggered Kindergarten Start **9**	All students attend in grades 1-12 Staggered Kindergarten Start **10**	All students attend at all grade levels **11**	**12**
13	**14**	**15**	School Improvement **16**	**17**	**18**	**19**
20	**21**	**22**	School Improvement **23**	**24**	**25**	**26**
27	**28**	**29**	School Improvement **30**	October 2026 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		



OCTOBER

Kevin, a 1st grader at Juniper Elementary School, loves to draw, color, and express his creativity through art. Whether he's filling a page with bright colors or creating a new masterpiece, his imagination is always at work.

Turn to page 33 for October highlights

- Safety protocols
- Personal device policy

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	September 2026 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	November 2026 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		1	2	3
4	5	6	School Improvement 7	8	9	10
11	12	13	School Improvement 14	15	16	17
18	19	20	School Improvement 21	22	No School Realms Middle and Deschutes River High 23	24
25	26	27	No School All Elementary and Middle School --- School Improvement High School Only 28	No School All Elementary and Middle School 29	No School All Elementary and Middle School 30	31



NOVEMBER

Seventh grader KayLee, from Three Rivers School, loves playing volleyball and embraces the competition that pushes her to keep improving. She enjoys challenging herself, supporting her teammates, and always striving to do her best.

Turn to page 34 for November highlights

- Engage With Us
- Healthy Schools
- Inclement weather plans

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	School Improvement 4	5	6	7
8	9	10	Veterans Day Holiday - No School 11	12	13	14
15	16	17	School Improvement 18	19	20	21
22	Fall Break - No School 23	Fall Break - No School 24	Fall Break - No School 25	Fall Break - No School 26	Fall Break - No School 27	28
29	30					

October 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

December 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



DECEMBER

Twin brothers Christopher and Cristian, 5th graders at Silver Rail Elementary School, have made incredible strides in language learning while winning hearts throughout the school. Their determination and bright smiles make them cherished members of the Silver Rail community.

Turn to page 34 for December highlights

- Mental health resources
- Choice Option Schools

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	November 2026 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1	School Improvement 2	3	No School Realms Middle, Deschutes River High, La Pine High 4	5
6	7	8	School Improvement 9	10	11	12
13	14	15	School Improvement 16	17	18	19
20	Winter Break - No School 21	Winter Break - No School 22	Winter Break - No School 23	Winter Break - No School 24	Winter Break - No School 25	26
27	Winter Break - No School 28	Winter Break - No School 29	Winter Break - No School 30	Winter Break - No School 31	January 2027 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	



JANUARY

Seventh grader Madelynn takes pride in embracing every opportunity to learn and grow at High Desert Middle School. Whether she's practicing a new tune on the violin or hitting the soccer field, she's always excited to try something new.

Turn to page 35 for January highlights

- Immunization Exclusion Day
- Forecasting
- YouthTruth survey

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			December 2026 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	February 2027 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	Winter Break - No School **1**	**2**
3	**4**	**5**	School Improvement **6**	**7**	**8**	**9**
10	**11**	**12**	School Improvement **13**	**14**	**15**	**16**
17	MLK Jr. Day Holiday - No School **18**	**19**	School Improvement **20**	**21**	**22**	**23**
24			School Improvement			
31	**25**	**26**	**27**	**28**	**29**	**30**



FEBRUARY

Senior Liam is building real-world skills through the Architecture and Construction program while exploring career pathways at Caldera High School. Career & Technical Education programs across Bend-La Pine Schools help students discover their passions and prepare for the future.

Turn to page 35 for February highlights

- ParentVUE
- Fly-ups and family nights

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	School Improvement 3	4	No School Alll schools (except La Pine High) 5	6
7	8	9	School Improvement 10	11	12	13
14	Presidents' Day Holiday - No School 15	16	School Improvement 17	18	19	20
21	22	23	School Improvement 24	25	26	27
28						

January 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

March 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



MARCH

Matthew, a 5th grader at R.E. Jewell Elementary School, approaches each day with determination and a spirit that shines. Supported by dedicated educators and classmates who celebrate every milestone, he brings energy and kindness to those around him.

Turn to page 36 for March highlights

- Transportation safety
- Spring conferences

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 2027 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	1	2	School Improvement 3	4	5	6
7	8	9	School Improvement 10	11	12	13
14	15	16	No School - Elementary and middle school School Improvement Realms Middle, Deschutes River High, La Pine High 17	No School Elementary and middle school 18	No School All students 19	20
21	Spring Break - No School 22	Spring Break - No School 23	Spring Break - No School 24	Spring Break - No School 25	Spring Break - No School 26	27
28	29	30	School Improvement 31	April 2027 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		



APRIL

Jemma, a 7th grader at La Pine Middle School, loves getting creative in her culinary class and staying active through school sports. Whether she's cooking up something delicious or taking on a new challenge, she brings energy and joy to everything she does.

Turn to page 36 for April highlights

- Smoke and the impact on outdoor activities
- Kindergarten registration

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			March 2027 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1	2	3
4	5	6	School Improvement 7	8	9	10
11	12	13	School Improvement 14	15	16	17
18	19	20	School Improvement 21	22	23	24
25	26	27	School Improvement 28	29	No School Realms Middle, Deschutes River High 30	May 2027 S M T W T F S 2 3 4 5 6 7 1/8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



MAY

Peyton, a senior at Mountain View High School, thrives in FFA's parliamentary procedure program, where he's building confidence as a leader and communicator. FFA empowers students through leadership, service, and hands-on learning, and Peyton is making the most of every opportunity.

Turn to page 37 for May highlights

- Mental Health Awareness Month
- Life and Career Readiness Skills Building

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			School Improvement			1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	School Improvement 12	13	14	15
16	17	18	School Improvement 19	20	21	22
23	24	25	School Improvement 26	27	28	29
30	Memorial Day Holiday - No School 31					

April 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

June 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



JUNE

Third grader Veronika fills each day with enthusiasm and heart at Lava Ridge Elementary School. Her curiosity and vibrant personality bring light to the hallways and classrooms around her, making every day a little brighter for friends and staff.

Turn to page 37 for June highlights

- Graduation season
- Summer meals

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	May 2027 S M T W T F S 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1	School Improvement 2	3	4	5
6	7	8	School Improvement 9	Summit High Graduation 10	La Pine High Graduation 11	Mountain View High School Graduation Caldera High Graduation Bend Senior High Graduation 12
13	Deschutes River High Graduation 14	15	16	Last Day of School 17	18	19
20	21	Potential Inclement Weather Makeup Day 22	Potential Inclement Weather Makeup Day 23	Potential Inclement Weather Makeup Day 24	Potential Inclement Weather Makeup Day 25	26
27	28	29	30	July 2027 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		



JULY

Jonathan, a 5th grader at Bear Creek Elementary School, loves every minute of his time in Adaptive P.E., where he builds confidence and inspires those around him. Surrounded by educators, support staff, and classmates, his smile and progress inspire his school community every day.

Turn to page 38 for July highlights

- Summer learning
- SafeOregon Tipline

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		June 2027 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	August 2027 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



AUGUST

Mastin, an 8th grader at Sky View Middle School, loves taking on leadership roles and helping share school stories through student news. His natural confidence is contagious as he encourages classmates to step up, get involved, and make the most of their experience.

Turn to page 38 for August highlights

- Get ready for back-to-school!
- Sports physicals and wellness checks

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

July 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



SEPTEMBER

ParentSquare

Starting this school year Bend-La Pine Schools is using ParentSquare to keep families better informed, from school news and safety alerts, to classroom updates from teachers, to District announcements. You can choose to receive updates by text or notification using the ParentSquare app on your phone, or find announcements and messages whenever you visit your ParentSquare dashboard.

Every parent of an enrolled student already has a ParentSquare account: Just look for our invite by e-mail to verify your account and start using ParentSquare today. Or get connected to your account by visiting parentsquare.com/signin and entering the email we have for you in our records. If you're having trouble, contact us at student-request@bend.k12.or.us.

ParentSquare is replacing many of the ways we communicate now, including the former BLconnect emergency alert system. To be sure you receive notices of school closures and emergencies, be sure to log into ParentSquare and check that we have the correct contact information for you. Learn more at bls.fyi/psq.

Assessments

Every spring, students across the district take part in Oregon's annual student assessments, part of the Oregon Statewide Assessment System. They include summative tests in English language arts, math, and science for specific grade levels.

Students in grades 3-8 and 11 take annual state assessments to measure student achievement and growth. Schools and districts use this information to identify areas of strength and area for improvement. The assessments also inform teachers of specific student needs, whether it is the need for additional support and resources or enrichment.

Oregon Senate Bill 141 requires school districts to administer a statewide growth assessment to students each year. To meet this requirement, students in grades K–8 take the Measures of Academic Growth (MAP) assessment three times annually—in the fall, winter, and spring. MAP provides teachers with valuable information about each student's academic growth and helps guide instruction to meet individual learning needs.



OCTOBER

Safety protocols

Threats to school safety can vary widely to include fires, earthquakes, nearby police activity, gas leaks, or even a wild animal roaming campus. Instead of having complicated responses that vary for incident type, our district follows the Standard Response Protocol (SRP) from the "I Love U Guys" Foundation.

The SRP is a data-driven approach to incident response that uses five actions for schools to take: hold, secure, lockdown, evacuate, and shelter. If staff or students observe something concerning, school employees are empowered to take initiative and respond individually in implementing SRP procedures based on the information they have at the moment. Information may change, and therefore, the SRP actions might change.

Hold is used to clear a space in the school such as a hallway or classroom to keep students away from a hazard. Lockdown is used to secure individual rooms and keep occupants quiet and in place during a threat or other emergency. Secure is used to safeguard people within the building. Everyone remains inside, and outside doors are locked. No one is allowed to enter the building when Secure is in place. Evacuation is used to move people from one location to a different location in or out of the building. Shelter is used to secure students and staff away from a natural hazard.

For more information about our safety resources, go to bls.fyi/safety.

Cell phone and personal device policy

We believe the best way for students to engage in their learning is to limit distractions in the classroom. Restricting access to phones and personal electronics during the school day helps students focus on learning, engage with teachers and peers, and develop skills and habits for life beyond school.

Please be sure your student is aware of expectations for personal electronic devices. Call your school office if you have an urgent need to contact your student.



NOVEMBER

Engage With Us

We want to hear from you! Go to bls.fyi/EngageWithUs to contact school and district staff, ask questions, request records and other information, contact our School Board, look up policy, gather feedback and more.

Healthy Schools

The Healthy Schools partnership with Deschutes County weaves public health programs into our school systems, promoting the importance of mental health support and interventions and creating a more nurturing learning environment.

The mission of Healthy Schools is to provide public health services directly within schools and school communities using collaborative, systemic, and integrative approaches so that students, families, and school staff in Deschutes County have access to high quality health programs.

Inclement weather plans

During severe weather events, the District sends drivers out early in the morning to evaluate road conditions in the Bend, La Pine and Sunriver areas. We also check on state, county and city road-clearing operations and monitor weather forecasts.

If we decide to delay school start times by two hours, or to close schools for the day, we strive to announce the decision no later than 5:30 a.m. If there is no change in normal operations, we do not make an announcement.

The best ways to get the latest information is from our website at bls.fyi/InclementWeather.



DECEMBER

Mental health resources

For many, the holidays are a joyful time for creating memories with family and friends. It also comes with stress and challenges. It's okay to ask for help, and support is available.

- 988: If you or someone you love is struggling with thoughts of suicide, call or text 988. You are not alone.
- YouthLine is a free and confidential teen-to-teen help line. Go to theyouthline.org for contact information via phone, text, chat, and email. Teens are available to help daily 4-10 p.m. PT (adults are available by phone at all other times).
- Care Solace supports the well-being of our community and can help you quickly find treatment options matched to your needs, regardless of the circumstance. Call 888-515-0595 or visit caresolace.com/bls.
- SafeOregon allows students and families to report information that involves students, the safety of their fellow students or their school 24-hours-a-day. Visit SafeOregon.com.

Choice Option Schools

Bend-La Pine Schools' choice options provide learning opportunities that are significantly different from our traditional programs, while meeting the same standards and requirements as other schools within the district. From Dual Immersion to Career Technical Education, the choice option schools have many programs to meet the individual focus of its students.

Enrollment for the 2027-28 school year opens January 4, 2027. Entry into the Choice Options lottery, Dual Immersion lottery, and Priority Area Change Requests all require a current enrollment into Bend-La Pine Schools for the school year requested. Learn more about our schools at bls.fyi/options2027.



JANUARY

Forecasting

Forecasting season is here! This is the process – usually taking place from late winter to early spring – in which students in grades 5-11 choose and request classes for the upcoming school year. The process may vary by grade level, but students will use resources like the curriculum guide, discussions with current teachers, counselors, and family to make informed course selections for the next school year.

Forecasting is essential for creating the school schedule and planning staffing for the school year. As a result, schedule changes are limited and allowed only for specific reasons. Therefore, we encourage students and families to carefully consider their course selections.

YouthTruth survey

In January, you have the opportunity to provide feedback about your school and your student's experience. It's all in an effort to grow better academic outcomes and improved well-being for our school communities. Families will be emailed an invitation to take the anonymous online survey conducted by YouthTruth – a nonprofit organization that supports hundreds of schools and districts across the country. The survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete and closes January 31.

Immunization Exclusion Day

Is your student up to date with their immunizations? Oregon's immunization exclusion day is February 24, 2027. Immunizations are required by state law for children and students in attendance at public and private schools, preschools, childcare facilities and Head Start programs. Each year in January and February, all schools and childcare facilities in Oregon must report the immunization status of their students to the Health Department. Children must have all state required immunizations, or a medical or a non-medical exemption, to stay enrolled. To learn more, go to bls.fyi/ImmunizationInfo.



FEBRUARY

ParentVUE

If you are new to Bend-La Pine Schools, you'll soon be using ParentVUE, our parent web portal to student information. You can view grades, assignments, attendance, and other relevant information about your student's education progress.

- Parents of secondary students will have access to grades, report cards, attendance, assignments, their student's current Individualized Education Program (IEP), and progress reports.
- Parents of elementary students will have access to attendance, report cards, their student's current IEP, progress reports and school announcements.

Please check with your student's school for their preferred tool.

Fly-ups and family nights

Students entering middle and high school during the 2027-28 school year get engaging opportunities to start the big move and meet their new school communities.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Elective Exploration Fly-Up Day gives 8th-grade students an opportunity to learn about the CTE pathways and rich elective options offered in their high schools by exploring technical skills, creative pursuits, and other options to spark their curiosity and excitement prior to forecasting.

Evening events are also planned for incoming 6th and 9th-grade families to meet student leaders and staff, explore co-curricular programs and clubs, learn about high school forecasting, and have some fun with their future school community.



MARCH

Spring conferences

Spring conferences fall just before spring break, March 17-18, 2027.

Conferences are an important time for families and teachers to connect. It's an opportunity to stay engaged with your student's teachers and learn ways to support their success at school and at home.

Transportation safety

Safety is a primary concern as we return to spring weather. That begins with all of us doing our part to make sure students have safe ways to travel to and from school, whether by bike or scooter, or on foot.

- Drivers, slow down and watch for students making their way to buses, walking or rolling to school, and crossing streets and parking areas.
- Find safe and convenient walking/biking routes to many of our schools at bls.fyi/saferoutes.
- Reminder! Students must be 16 or older to operate e-bikes on school property.
- Always wear a helmet and watch your speed. And please dismount and walk your wheels when on school property.



APRIL

Kindergarten registration

Do you know someone on the road to kindergarten in the 2027-28 school year? Learn more about their new school journey in a park near you!

Check the district calendar to find out the April date for On the Road to Kindergarten. The big yellow school bus will tour neighborhood parks with all the kindergarten details you need to know. Families with new kindergarten students can stop by and learn about registering for the new year, register on the spot, or find out when to visit your child's school.

In order to be eligible for kindergarten beginning in 2027, students must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2027. Everything you need to know is available at bls.fyi/kindergarten.

Smoke and the impact on outdoor activities

Land managers are already planning prescribed burns to reduce wildfire risk. While these burns help keep our communities safe, the smoke can still affect air quality and outdoor activities for students, from sports practices to P.E. classes and recess. We monitor the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's Air Quality Index when smoke is present in the Bend, La Pine and Sunriver areas. If the air outside is listed as Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups, Unhealthy or Very Unhealthy/Hazardous, school administrators will take action.

We follow the Air Quality Guidelines of the Oregon School Activities Association to determine when outdoor activities should be canceled or moved indoors. Athletic and activities directors, coaches and support staff will communicate with families of students participating in OSAA regarding these health guidelines. Coaches will notify families if changes are made to games or practice times and schedules. For resources and more information, go to bls.fyi/aqi.



MAY

Mental Health Awareness Month

Mental health matters. Many people around us are struggling, and they deserve care, understanding, and support. By having open, compassionate conversations, we can break the stigma and create a culture of support.

If you or someone you know needs help, Care Solace is here. This complimentary and confidential mental health care coordination service, provided by Bend-La Pine Schools, can help connect you with a provider quickly and easily:

- Call 888-515-0595 for multilingual support, available 24/7/365.
- Visit caresolace.com/bls to search for a provider or click "Book Appointment" for personalized assistance via video chat, email, or phone.

Life and Career Readiness Skills Building

Bend La-Pine Schools utilizes Wayfinder and SchooLinks to help provide a learning environment that nurtures students' academic growth and fosters critical thinking, a sense of purpose, and future- ready skills to connect classroom learning to the real world.

- Elementary students learn to build community and foster relationships in the classroom and beyond.
- In middle school, students explore their strengths and begin to focus on career-ready skills through their Advisory period.
- High school students set goals for future-ready skills and approach post-secondary life with confidence.

These tools complement the existing curriculum without replacing any essential academic content. It is introduced through age-appropriate activities, discussions, and interactive experiences to foster a positive and engaging learning environment that promotes academic success.



JUNE

Graduation ceremonies

It's graduation season and time to celebrate our remarkable Class of 2026! If you are attending a graduation ceremony, here are a few things to know:

- In the event of lightning or poor air quality, the event may be postponed or moved indoors. The decision is made by our administrators using Oregon School Activities Association guidelines.
- You will find parking, transportation, and designated seating available for ADA needs at all ceremonies. Dogs are not allowed unless they are registered service animals.
- Language interpretation will be provided as needed.

We look forward to celebrating your student!

Summer meals

Have you heard the news? Bend-La Pine Schools provides kids with free, nutritious meals all summer.

Starting not long after the last day of school, we offer healthy meals at no charge to children and teens at outdoor locations in Bend and La Pine. The program is open to anyone 18 and younger.

There is no registration or fee. Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend with their children and may purchase a meal for themselves. For locations and times, visit bls.fyi/summermeals.



JULY

Summer learning

Summertime means a break from school, but it shouldn't mean a break from learning. We encourage students and families to stay engaged with learning over the course of the summer. Students who don't participate in educational activities over the summer can experience summer learning loss, sometimes called the summer slide.

We hope all our families can find fun ways to keep kids engaged and thinking this summer.

Learning during the summer doesn't have to mirror the classroom. Simple, everyday activities can help keep students engaged:

- Explore the math and reading resources shared by our teachers.
- Read together regularly.
- Visit your local library.
- Ask questions to spark conversation and curiosity.
- Cook together and have your child follow the recipe and handle measurements.

We hope your family enjoys a fun, enriching summer. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September!

SafeOregon Tipline

SafeOregon is a reporting tool that can be used by anyone via phone call or website form to report a student safety concern. Examples of student safety concerns include vandalism, cyberbullying, suicidal ideation, insufficient food or safety concerns at home, or anything that poses a risk to the safety of a student(s) or school facility. Reporters can share their information or remain anonymous. Bend-La Pine Schools staff uses this reported information to coordinate with our law enforcement partners to keep the school community safe.

SafeOregon tips are still monitored during the summer months.



AUGUST

Wellness checks and sports physicals

Parents/guardians of athletes and non-athletes alike are encouraged to consider an annual Wellness Check – a complete medical examination and screen for common health issues.

Wellness Check visits are vital to children's healthy growth and development. Physicians suggest adolescents should have regular wellness visits to make sure they are developing at the expected pace and continue to remain healthy.

Students who participate in extracurricular sports must complete a physical exam. Sports physicals are valid for two years.

Get ready!

As the new school year approaches, now is a great time to begin preparing for a smooth and confident start. Here are five simple but effective ways parents can help set their children up for success:

- Reestablish routines. Begin shifting to earlier bedtimes and wake-up times to help ease the transition back to the school schedule.
- Create a learning space. Set up a quiet, organized area at home for reading and homework to support focus and good study habits.
- Refresh academic skills. Review basic math, reading, or writing for a few minutes each day to rebuild confidence and readiness.
- Talk about the school year. Discuss what to expect and check in on how your child is feeling about the transition back to school.
- Prepare together. Include your child in school events and orientations to help them feel connected and ready.

Bend-La Pine Schools
An Educational Site of Administrative School District #1
520 N.W. Wall St.
Bend, OR 97703

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Elementary Schools

Amity Creek at Thompson
437 NW Wall St., Bend
541-355-2800

Bear Creek
51 SE 13th St., Bend
541-355-1400

Buckingham
62560 Hamby Road, Bend
541-355-2600

Elk Meadow
60880 Brookswood Blvd., Bend
541-355-1500

Ensworth
2150 NE Daggett Lane, Bend
541-355-1600

High Lakes
2500 NW High Lakes Loop, Bend
541-355-1700

Highland at Kenwood
701 NW Newport Ave., Bend
541-355-1900

Juniper
1300 NE Norton Ave., Bend
541-355-1800

La Pine
51615 Coach Road, La Pine
541-355-8000

Lava Ridge
20805 Cooley Road, Bend
541-355-2400

North Star
63567 Brownrigg Lane, Bend
541-355-2300

Pine Ridge
19840 Hollygrape St., Bend
541-355-2700

Ponderosa
3790 NE Purcell Blvd., Bend
541-355-4300

R. E. Jewell
20550 Murphy Road, Bend
541-355-2100

Rosland
52350 Yaeger Way, La Pine
541-355-8100

Silver Rail
61530 SE Stone Creek St., Bend
541-355-2900

William E. Miller
300 NW Crosby Drive, Bend
541-355-2500

K-8 Schools

Three Rivers (K-8)
56900 Enterprise Dr., Sunriver
541-355-3000

Westside Village at Kingston (K-8)
1101 NW 12th St., Bend
541-355-2000

Middle Schools

Cascade
19619 Mountaineer Way, Bend
541-355-7000

High Desert
61000 Diamondback Lane, Bend
541-355-7200

La Pine
16360 First St., La Pine
541-355-8200

Pacific Crest
3030 NW Elwood Lane, Bend
541-355-7800

Pilot Butte
1501 NE Neff Road, Bend
541-355-7400

Realms Middle at Buckingham Elementary
62560 Hamby Road, Bend
541-355-5500

Sky View
63555 18th St., Bend
541-355-7600

High Schools

Bend Senior
245 NE 9th St., Bend
541-355-3700

Caldera
60925 SE 15th St., Bend
541-355-5400

Deschutes River
1291 NE 5th Street, Bend
541-355-3500

La Pine
51633 Coach Road, La Pine
541-355-8400

Mountain View
2755 NE 27th St., Bend
541-355-4400

Summit
2855 NW Clearwater Dr., Bend
541-355-4000