

WEEKLY NEWS 8.25.2024

Hello Lava Ridge Families!

The Lava Ridge staff are busy getting ready for the start of an amazing school year. As we work towards the first day of school, we have some key information to share with you that may require some action on your part.

OFFICE HOURS

Lava Ridge Elementary office hours are from 7am-3pm, M-F. We are available to take your calls at 541-355-2400 (option 2#).

OPEN HOUSE

Lava Ridge will be hosting an Open House on Thursday, August 29th from 4-6pm. All families are welcome to stop by, meet your child's teacher and walk through the halls of the school. Families will learn who their child's teacher is via email by 2:00 pm on Thursday, August 29th. While emails from the Bend-La Pine Schools will hopefully arrive in your in-box, there can be instances in which they inadvertently land in junk mail. If for any reason you are not aware of who your child's teacher is, you can stop by the office at Open House, and we will look up the information for you.

We will not be using the management system during Open House and at other events during the school year when school is not in session.

WHAT TO EXPECT ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

The first day of school for students in grades 1-5 is September 4th. Half of the kindergarten students will start on Wednesday, Sept. 4th and the other half will come on Thursday, Sept. 5th. All kindergarten students will attend school on Friday, Sept. 6th. For kindergarten families, please be on the lookout for an email from your child's teacher with a confirmation of which day your kindergarten student will have as a first day of school.

Each morning, we will open the main doors of Lava Ridge at 7:30am and students can go to class or to the cafeteria for breakfast. Breakfast and lunch are free for students in the Bend-La Pine Schools this year. Buses also arrive at 7:30am.

On the first day of school, staff and volunteers from the Lava Ridge PTO, will be ready to greet your child at the main entrance of Lava Ridge and walk them to class. Over the years we have had to discontinue visitors and families walking their child to class, due to the volume of adults in the school and the need for each to be processed through the visitor management system.

Kindergarten teachers will be greeting students in-person on the grass in front of Lava Ridge on the first three days of school, September 4-6.

The first day of school is exciting and always filled with anticipation. As you prepare for this day, we encourage you to keep **everything** about the new school year positive in the build-up to the first day. If you feel your child may be a bit apprehensive about the start of the year and morning arrival at school, consider developing a drop-off routine, such as a quick hug, followed by a fist bump, and then entry into school. We have found that families that can keep this routine quick, focused and positive, experience the most success. Practicing this routine before the first day is important, and again, keep the talk about the upcoming year positive.

The end of the school day is at 2:15pm. The week of September 9th, schools will start to observe the School Improvement Wednesday schedule with dismissal on Wednesdays at 12:45pm. The first early release Wednesday is September 11th.

BUS REGISTRATION

Do you have a student who needs to ride the bus to/from school? If yes, please log into your [ParentVUE](#) account and use the Online Registration tool. If you need assistance with ParentVUE, feel free to call Kim in the main office and she can assist. More information regarding school buses can be found on the BLS webpage.

<https://www.bend.k12.or.us/bus>

SCHOOL LUNCHES AND BREAKFAST

Lunch and breakfast are free for all students in the Bend-La Pine Schools this year.

CELL PHONE AND SMART WATCH EXPECTATIONS

Does your Lion plan to bring a cell phone or wear a smart watch to school? During the day, Lava Ridge students will be expected to have their phones turned off and in their backpacks, and smart watch users will not be able to send or receive communication while at school (texts or calls) Thank you for reviewing these Bend-La Pine Schools guidelines with your student.

THE LAVA RIDGE PTO ROCKS!

The Lava Ridge PTO helps our students and teachers in so many ways. This year, the PTO will provide over \$38,000 to Lava Ridge to help with field trips, grants for classroom teachers, money for PE and music and so much more! These funds come from the generous donations of Lava Ridge families and your participation in events such as the Read-A-Thon and Lion Dash. Thank you! This year, the PTO Team needs not only your financial help but

also your gift of time. Keep an eye out for the PTO table at the Main Entrance during Open House.

BLS SCHOOL CALENDAR

District calendars and important dates can be found, [here](#). Be sure to bookmark the page for future reference.

SAFEST ROUTES TO SCHOOL

This year, we will have crossing guards assisting walkers, riders, and rollers across at two intersections: Egypt and Rockridge Park (by the speed bump on Egypt, across from campus) and on Cooley Road, just North of campus. Staff will be at these locations from 7:25-7:40 a.m. and 2:10-2:25 daily.

Each year, Commute Options, maps the safest routes for Lava Ridge students to walk and roll to school. Check out the map for this year here (insert)

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Lava Ridge will provide all necessary basic supplies for students. Families are welcome to provide personal items (labeled with student's name) for students (backpacks, water bottles, headphones, lunch boxes, etc.). If your family needs help securing a personal item, please reach out to Tara Ha, our FAN advocate (Tarra.Ha@bend.k12.or.us) for support. For specific questions, please call the front office.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

A safe and supportive school depends upon the efforts of all members of the school community - students, educators, administrators, staff members, families & guardians, and others - to treat each other with mutual respect. The Student Code of Conduct handbook details the expectations, responsibilities, and rights of all members of our school communities. <https://www.bend.k12.or.us/district/organization/student-code-conduct>

REMINDERS & DATES TO REMEMBER

- LRE Open House: Thu. August 29th from 4-6pm
- 1st-5th Grade, First Day of School: Wed, Sept. 4th
- First Day of School for Kindergarten: September 4th or 5th (All Kinders attend on Friday, September 7th)