

April 1, 2024



Jackson County School District #91 (Butte Falls)

## April: Sprinting for the Finish Line!

**Dear Butte Falls Charter School Parents and Community Members,**

Spring has sprung! We are riding the weather roller coaster this year with temperature fluctuating between freezing and 80+ degrees already.

Regardless of the weather, our school Dress Code expectation is one of modesty. Given that some current fashion trends are running counter to our Dress Code, we encourage parents to check on your student before they come to school. Otherwise, they may be calling you for additional clothing to wear at school.

Below are the top five items from the Dress Code section that tend to become issues as the weather warms up:

1. Shorts, skirts and dresses should be no shorter than mid-thigh. That is halfway between the hip joint and the knee.
2. Distressed jeans or shorts that have tears that are higher than mid-thigh.
3. Any clothing that reveals undergarments.
4. Tank tops with armholes so large that the chest and back are clearly visible. Shirts and tops should not reveal bare midriffs. A quick way to check this is to have your student raise both arms to shoulder height.
5. Clothing (usually t-shirts) that promote drugs, tobacco, alcohol, firearms or weapons of any kind.



*Occasionally, we have school spirit days when students may dress in a costume. Even so, students should follow our general expectation of modesty.*

Our Dress Code is intended to support a safe and welcoming learning environment for students, staff and guests. Students are expected to abide by it at school and at school activities. Our Elementary and Secondary Student Handbooks are available online at [www.buttefalls.k12.or.us](http://www.buttefalls.k12.or.us) (Click on the Students tab).

### **Water Safety Swim Lessons for 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders**

Each year in late winter, our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students participate in a one-week water safety class at the Cascade Community Pool in White City. We are able to offer this at no cost to families because of the on-going generosity of one of our patrons, Ruby Edwards. For years, she has gifted our school with funds to cover the cost of transportation and the lessons.

This past month, Mrs. Smart’s 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class participated in this important training. They not only learned about the potential dangers of playing in streams, rivers, and lakes, but also dove into the pool to gain skills in floating and swimming that can help them be safer.



*After gathering information about water safety, our students jumped at the chance to get some direct instruction in the water. Thank you, Ruby Edwards, for supporting this life-saving training. Thank you Cascade Community Pool staff for your patient teaching and coaching for our students.*



## Take a Seat; Well, At First You Will Need to Build the Chair!

Students taking our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter high school Woodworking class were challenged to build an Adirondack style chair. This task required them to apply accurate measuring, cutting, drilling, and assembling the various pieces. Thanks to the generosity of the team at [Oregon West Lumber Sales](#), we were able to obtain some cedar planks for our students to cut to size. This meant that each student who successfully completed a chair could take it home. The students also could choose from several other woodworking projects including using a mini-lathe to make a wooden ball-point pen.



*(Left) Mr. Carrigan demonstrates how to safely use the SawStop table saw. (Center) A very proud 9<sup>th</sup>-grader hoists his completed Adirondack chair. (Right) His younger sister admires his handiwork as he carries the chair to his home in Butte Falls. 3/13/2024*

## Another Safety Improvement is Nearing Completion.



Over Spring Break, Vitus Construction replaced the main entry doors to the high school. The new double doors are designed to replicate the original entryway. They replace a single large door that was showing signs of wear. The new doors include a security camera, a speaker and a microphone so visitors can buzz the main office, identify who they are, and be let in without someone running from the office to open the door. Vitus Construction is also replacing the double doors in the gymnasium to improve security.

This project is one in a series of investments the district has made to improve the safety of students, staff, and guests on our campuses. Funding has come from several state and federal grants along with funds designated through the budgeting process for capital improvements. The District has completed about \$4.5 million in safety improvements during the past 8 years.

## Spring Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

It's time for our twice-yearly face-to-face meeting to discuss the progress of students with their parents. Based on parent schedules and the number of students per teacher, we have slightly different schedules for the elementary (K-7) and secondary campuses:

	<b>Elementary (K-7)</b>	<b>Secondary (8-12)</b>
<b>Thursday, April 18</b>	8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Noon to 8:00 p.m.
<b>Friday, April 19</b>	8:00 a.m. to Noon	10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

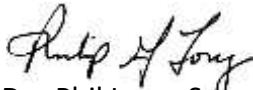
We will work with parents of multiple students to coordinate the various conferences they will have with teachers. We are excited to share with you the progress your students are making as well as those things they are working on.

Here are some important upcoming District dates. Please check the District News and Events at our website ([www.buttefalls.k12.or.us](http://www.buttefalls.k12.or.us)) for any updates.

- **School Resumes** – Monday, April 1 (A regular school day - no foolin'!)
- **Last Day of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter** – Thursday, April 4
- **Teacher Inservice/Planning Day** - Friday, April 5
- **First Day of 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter** – Monday, April 8
- **April School Board Meeting** – 6:00 p.m., Monday, April 8, at District Office
- **School-Wide Earth Day** – Wednesday, April 17
- **Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences** - Thursday/Friday, April 18-19
- **Annual Budget Committee Meeting** – 6:00 p.m., Monday, May 6
- **May School Board Meeting** – 6:00 p.m., Monday, May 13, at District Office
- **Open House** – Thursday, May 16, in the evening (More information to come.)
- **Memorial Day – No School** – Monday, May 27
- **Possible Snow Makeup Day** – Friday, May 31 (If we have a Snow Day closure before then)
- **High School Graduation** – 7:00 p.m., Saturday, June 8, by invitation.

Thank you for your support and encouragement for our students and staff! We hope to see you at our community and sports events!

Sincerely,



Dr. Phil Long, Superintendent

***What you focus on gets done!***



***Our weekly SMART Reading program allows older students to read with our youngest students. Sometimes this provides siblings quality reading time together. 3/13/2024***