EAR parents, guardians, and supporters, I hope you are all doing well during these trying times. Decisions are not easy to make since everything is changing so fast. I hope your children are adjusting to our new normal. It is extremely hard for our children affected by autism to



be so isolated without the services they deserve.

In order to do our best to keep our students and staff safe, our school will continue remote/distance learning until COVID-19 declines and the restrictions are lifted. Our full reopening plan for school is in this newsletter beginning on page 2. Reopening will be broken into four, specific phases unique to Bridgeway House. Currently, we plan for school to start in Phase 2 of our reopening plan on September 17th with remote learning in place. This plan is subject to change due to the unpredictability of COVID-19.

When it is possible to move into Phase 3 of the reopening plan, school will be in-person plan but in blocks which will help keep the number of staff and students low to prevent spread of COVID-19. This will also allow more one-on-one learning which will help with any regressions. In Phase 3, the districts will need to group students for transportation purposes and Bridgeway House will need to group students by academic/social levels to make best use of the three hour blocks. Unfortunately, this means it will not be possible for parents to request specific blocks for their children.

Bridgeway House is keeping current with all guidelines. We know that there is nothing more important than the safety and health of your amazing children and our hard-working staff.

Our Home Therapy Program is open and accepting applications at this time. Just call 541.345.0805 and leave a message or email: info@bridgewayhouse.org to request an application. Our office is not open for visitors because we are all working remotely, so please be patient for a response.

Our Parent Series and our Social Groups, SHAPE, and Game Nights are not open at this time but we are hopeful we can open them again in 2021.

These are difficult times for all of us, especially our children who need the support and services. We are doing our best and we want everyone to be safe. We can do this together.

Best to you all! I miss your children so very much.

Patricia Wigney

## **ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2020-2021**

#### 2020

2020			
September	16	W	No School - Teacher Work Day
September	17	Th	Classes Begin
October	9	F	No School - In Service Day
October	29-30	Th-F	No School - Trainings
November	11	W	No School - Veterans Day
November	23-27	M-F	No School - Thanksgiving Break
November	30	M	Classes Resume
December	21-Jan 4	M-F	No School - Winter Break

#### 2021

January	5	Т	Classes Resume
January	18	M	No School - MLK Jr Day
January	29	F	No School - Conference Day
February	15	M	No School - Presidents Day
March	19	F	No School - Teacher Work Day
March	22-26	M-F	No School - Spring Break
March	29	M	Classes Resume
May	31	M	No School - Memorial Day
June	17	Th	Last Day of School
July	6-Aug 5	M-Th	Summer School

#### Schedule is subject to change.

Block A: 8 am to 11 am, Monday through Thursday. Block B: 12 pm to 3 pm, Monday through Thursday. Block A & B: Distance Learning: 9 am Friday.

Bridgeway House is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. We offer treatments, developmental therapies, enrichment courses, and support to children and families with autism and related abilities. Because of COVID-19, our office is not open for appointments because we are working remotely. Please call and leave a message. Mailing address: PO Box 10639 Eugene, OR 97440-2639 ◆ Office address: 555 E 15th Avenue Eugene Phone 541.345.0805 ◆ Fax 541.345.0855 ◆ www.bridgewayhouse.org

# BRIDGEWAY SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN 2020-2021 (COVID-19 CLOSURE)

In consideration of reopening its school, Bridgeway House is following strict ODE and CDC guidelines, as well as the state-specific regulations mandated by Governor Kate Brown. The private school has continued to operate with very little interruption following the COVID-19 closure on March 13, 2020.

All programs are intended to resume at full capacity in the future, but these dates are uncertain, with Oregon schools tentatively scheduled to reopen for in-person learning in Fall 2020. Numerous factors could extend closure, but the school program must have a plan in place as things continue to develop and change.

Bridgeway House has developed a unique, school-specific, phased approach for reintroduction to onsite/in-person learning:

#### PHASES OF REINTRODUCTION

Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
The most restrictive situation	Distance Learning continues for	Students return to school	All students return to in-
under a Shelter-in-place	all students. Begin preparations	buildings for in-person	person learning for a regular
order. All school is remote	for re-introduction of onsite	learning, but classroom	school schedule.
via Distance Learning. All	school.All physical locations	schedules are modified	
physical locations closed.	closed.	with decreased numbers.	
BW takes immediate action	BW works closely with school	Classroom limit is 10	BW School provides in-
to close all in-person services	districts, ODE, and families to	people at a time, including	person academics to all
as of March 13, 2020. Parents	provide the most comprehensive	staff. School safety	students from 8 AM to 3 PM
are immediately notified	Distance Learning possible. IEPs	protocols based on CDC	Monday through Thursday.
and Distance Learning is	and class meetings are attended	and ODE guidelines.	Friday is a teacher workday
initiated.	online as well.		and students will not attend.

#### PHASE 3 REOPENING SCHEDULE

Phase 3 includes a block schedule as detailed below:

Block A: 8 am to 11 am, Monday through Thursday

Sterilize and disinfect school: 11 am to 12 pm (M-Th)

**Block B:** 12 pm to 3 pm, Monday through Thursday **Block A and B:** Distance Learning: 9 am Friday

The block schedule allows staff to work one-on-one with behaviors safely.

Parents will be notified to which block their child will be assigned prior to reopening.

In Phase 4, all students will attend from 8 am to 3 pm, Monday through Thursday.

Friday will then become a workday for teachers.

Throughout all phases, Bridgeway House has identified four focus priorities for the entire reintroduction process:

- 1) Ensure health and well-being of all students and staff.
- 2) Provide supports to teachers and staff.
- 3) Maximize student academic growth.
- 4) Assure continued operation and financial viability.

Bridgeway School Reopening Plan is continued on page 3.

# YOU CAN HELP BRIDGEWAY HOUSE

**FRED MEYER REWARDS:** Connect your Fred Meyer Rewards card to Bridgeway House at *fredmeyer.com/communityrewards* and every time you use your card, in addition to the rewards you accrue, Bridgeway House will benefit, too!

**ESCRIP:** Register your credit, debit, and store loyalty cards at *escrip.com* and a percentage of what you buy with these cards will be donated to Bridgeway House.

**AMAZON SMILE:** Choose Bridgeway House through Amazon Smile and we will receive a percentage of your purchase from *smile.amazon.com*.

# OFFICE DEPOT GIVE BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

We are participating in the Office Depot/ Office Max program where Bridgeway House receives 5% of your qualifying purchases back in credits for free supplies! Our ID number for them is 70243478. Qualifying purchases are supplies that are clearly school-related.





# BRIDGEWAY SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN 2020-2021 (cont'd from page 2)

#### ESTABLISHING REINTRODUCTION PRIORITIES

Priority	Phases 1 and 2	Phase 3	
Ensure health	Distance Learning computer equipment is sterilized	Create health and safety protocols and plans;	
and well-being	before being delivered to families in need;	Develop and begin implementing	
of all students	Ensure clear and timely communications between staff	reintegration plans for in-person learning;	
and staff	and families;	Support physical, social and behavioral	
	Teachers regularly check in with student families to	health needs through communication and	
	monitor health and emotional well-being;	outreach; Collaborate with community	
	Administrative staff continually monitors regulations for	partners to ensure access to support.	
	schools.		
Provide	Mobilize Lead Teachers/OT/SLP to:	Provide continued support and development;	
supports to	Implement online teaching platform;	Communicate frequently with all school staff	
teachers and	Attend online meetings for staff;	as needed;	
staff	Reorganize staff priorities to meet immediate needs;	Communicate with Districts as needed to	
	Enact strict guidelines to only permit essential staff on	stay connected;	
	school grounds.	Develop reintegration plans.	
Maximize	Distribute devices/internet access;	Build new learning plans for students, with	
student	Strengthen parent partnerships;	careful attention to the needs of individuals	
academic	Carefully develop "Distance Learning" which provides	to maintain safety while in school;	
growth	individualized online curriculum;	Distance Learning continues for those still	
	Communicate with Districts regularly to attend IEPs,	participating in school during building	
	discuss goals, and monitor attendance and progress of	closures.	
	Distance Learning.		
Assure school	Retain only staff that is essential to school program;	Utilize school revenue to construct all	
operation	Remaining teachers and administrators enact methods	required safety and health systems using	
and financial	of safe, secure communication to maintain efficiency and	equipment mandated by ODE and CDC.	
viability	compliance;	This ensures on-schedule opening for in-	
	Seek community donations of technological equipment	person school again at both locations.	
	to support Distance Learning.		

Progression between the Phases will be determined by State health guidelines and Government regulations related to schools in Oregon. Overall, the reintroduction guidelines seek to create small, stable groups of students and staff by requiring physical distancing, limiting movement throughout school buildings, restricting large gatherings, and maintaining regular and frequent handwashing/school-sterilizing breaks.

#### **Health Screening**

- All staff and students will be screened outside of the school building every day prior to entry. Any person with concerning symptoms will be sent home immediately.
- Families of students, as well as the agency's returning staff, will be required to regularly answer a set of screening questions to determine level of health risk.
- Multiple entry and exit points for staggered student transition into or out of school buildings will be assigned and mandated.

Bridgeway School Reopening Plan is continued on page 4.

# Please watch our Facebook page for the most current information & schedule updates!







# BRIDGEWAY SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN 2020-2021 (cont'd from page 3)

#### **Face Covers**

• Staff will be required to wear face shields or masks in alignment with both ODE and CDC guidelines.

#### Handwashing

• There will be regular, frequent handwashing breaks required for all staff and students. Handwashing and sanitizing stations will be available to all classrooms, and an hourly wash is recommended (in addition to the usual handwashing times before eating, after recess and bathroom, etc.)

#### **Physical Space**

- 6 feet of physical space between student seats
- One-way hallways marked with arrows
- Students stay in classrooms as much as possible. Teachers move as needed but as little as possible.
- No traditional water fountains. Only no-touch water systems
- Regular disinfecting and sterilizing of school environment/materials/curriculum between groups of students at both locations
- Restroom visits will be limited to one student (with assistance, if needed) at a time
- There will be no school visitors allowed
- There will be no access to the kitchen for both staff and students

#### Materials/Supplies

• All students will have their own designated materials. If supplies are used between groups, they must be disinfected at each change.

Ongoing communication with families and staff is critical, and it will continue with the information everyone needs to make the in-person schooling safe and successful as Bridgeway House school plans its reopening. Although Bridgeway House strives to treat all staff and students equitably, it may be necessary to make building-based precautionary safety decisions. This means 15th Avenue and Camp Creek buildings could vary in terms of COVID-19 safety protocol.

Many students will implement the new online skills they have gained during Distance Learning in the new curriculum provided by their teachers. Overall, the agency knows that safety and good health are paramount, as academic success cannot be achieved otherwise. Bridgeway House will do all that is necessary and required to ensure a safe reintegration of staff and students to the in-person school program.

# BRIDGEWAY HOUSE PROGRAMS & SERVICES

#### **HOME THERAPY PROGRAM**

Our Home Therapy Program offers individualized, inhome therapies regardless of your child's age. We now accept most insurances for ABA through our Home Therapy Program, including Oregon Health Plan. We also offer scholarships for therapies not covered by insurance and for families without insurance coverage for ABA.

Starting August 1st, we will be accepting applications for the Home Therapy Program. To request an application please email: info@bridgewayhouse.org.

### **PARENTING SERIES**

Parenting Series with Mary Ann Winter-Messiers, PhD provides guidance in the challenges of raising a child on the autism spectrum. Parenting Series is on hiatus due to COVID-19.

## **SOCIAL GROUPS**

Social Groups help children and youth with autism build friendships while they learn social skills and emotional self-regulation. Our Social Groups are on hiatus due to COVID-19.

## **SHAPE**

SHAPE is a series of developmentally appropriate classes focusing on sexual health, personal responsibility, hygiene, confidence, self-awareness, and relationship skills for youth from 4th to 12th grade. SHAPE is on hiatus due to COVID-19.

#### **GAME NIGHT**

Game Night is a great opportunity for ages 12 and up to socialize while playing board and video gameGame Night is on hiatus due to COVID-19.





# Thank You to Our Sponsors!









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# THE JUNGLE BOOK

In March, because of COVID-19 and the stay-athome orders, the Bridgeway House Players could no longer meet for rehearsals for The Jungle Book. Since we really didn't know when we might be able to perform in front of an audience again, we decided to create a video instead. Using the magic of technology, we have created a wonderful, socially distanced production of The Jungle Book.

Please support our actors and check out the production on YouTube at https://bit.ly/3k0myig









# Thank You to Our Donors & Volunteers!

Our deepest thanks to the individuals, businesses, and foundations who graciously support Bridgeway House through gifts of items, their time, and their funds. *We could not do it without you!* 

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