



290 First Street  
P.O. Box 100  
Gervais, Oregon 97026-0100  
Phone: (503) 792-3803  
FAX: (503) 792-3809  
[www.gervais.k12.or.us](http://www.gervais.k12.or.us)

Within our growing, diverse community, we sow the seeds of opportunities to raise prepared, resilient students.

January 6, 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope the beginning of 2023 finds you all well and excited for students to return to school. As we move toward the end of January and into the second semester, the district and the transportation department have been able to put together a plan to return to a “pre-pandemic” school day for students in grades 6-12.

For those of you with students in elementary school, the school hours are not changing. Students in grades K-5 will still begin school at 8 a.m. and dismiss at 2:30 p.m.

For those of you with students in grades 6-12, beginning on February 6, 2023, the new times are as follows:

- **All middle school and high school students begin school at 8 a.m. and dismiss at 3:10 p.m.**
- **On days marked as Early Release for middle school and high school students, school still begins at 8 a.m., and students will be dismissed at 1 p.m.**

While elementary students’ school start and end times will not be impacted by this change, bus pickup and drop-off times will be impacted for all.

The district is able to return to the pre-pandemic start and end times for all grade levels because our transportation company has been able to recruit and train enough drivers to make this happen. The district transportation services have been fully staffed for a number of months, but we wanted to make sure we retained enough staff before making this adjustment.

These new times will allow staff to provide additional after school supports for students in grades 6-12 who may need more help as we progress to the end of the school year. There will be an even stronger focus on getting students back on track, which will require students to stay after school to receive tutoring and other supports. These time changes also allow our student athletes to miss fewer classes when they do leave early for competitions, and it helps our high school students who attend the Willamette Career Academy because they are missing less class time at the high school as they transition from one program to the next.

Again, these new start and end times begin the first day of the second semester, which is **February 6, 2023**.

Please be looking for new bus pickup and drop-off times for all coming soon.

Should you have specific questions, please direct those to your building principals.

Thank you,

Dandy Stevens  
Superintendent

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Esta institución ofrece igualdad de oportunidades*

