District Handbook 2023-24











every student connected empowered

Tear-out school calendar on page 11

Welcome

Dr. Andy Dey, Superintendent dey_a@4j.lane.edu 541-790-7706

Dear Families,

On behalf of Eugene School District 4J, I extend a warm welcome to all of you to the 2023-24 school year. As superintendent, it is my utmost pleasure to lead this exceptional learning community.

At 4J, we prioritize the success and well-being of every student. Our dedicated team of educators and staff works tirelessly to create an inclusive and

nurturing environment that fosters academic excellence, personal growth, and a love for learning.

We value the partnership between families and the district, as it is crucial to providing a well-rounded education. Together, we can empower our students to reach their fullest potential.

I look forward to a fruitful collaboration with you throughout the school year to create a positive and enriching educational experience for all our students.

Warm regards, Andyde

Eugene 4J School Board

board@4j.lane.edu 541-790-7706



Tom Di Liberto



Maya Rabasa



Rick Hamilton

Vacant, pending

school board appointment







Seven volunteer school board members are elected from the district at large to serve four-year terms. The school board sets policy for the school district and hires the superintendent. The board meets in regular public sessions, usually on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at the 4J Education Center, 200 N. Monroe St. For meetings times, agendas, streaming information and recordings, visit 4j.lane.edu/board or call 541-790-7706.



Contents

Welcome

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE 2	2
BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2	2
4J FOCUS 3	3
KEY INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES 3	3

Family Engagement

TAKE A LOOK: NEW 4J WEBSITE LAUNCHES 4
LOG IN TO PARENTSQUARE 4
LET'S TALK: DIALOGUE WITH 4J 5
BECOME A VOLUNTEER 5
ATTEND A PUBLIC MEETING 5
SUPPORT EUGENE EDUCATION FOUNDATION (EEF) 5

Equitable Access & Advancement

GARTEN SMART START 6	KII
TERACY 6	EA
E READINESS 6	CC
IG CTE 6	GR
GROUPS 6	AF
CHOICE 7	SC
YING 4J'S WORKFORCE 7	Dľ

Safety & Well-Being

CARE & ADVOCACY	8
EMERGENCY PROCEDURES	8
EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS	8
SNOW DAYS / OTHER SCHOOL CLOSURES AND DELAYS	8
SUICIDE PREVENTION PLAN	8
SAFEOREGON TIPLINE	8
STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES	9

District Directory

QUICK LINKS	10
PHONE NUMBERS	10

2023-24 School Calendar 11

Eugene School District 4J 200 N. Monroe St Eugene, OR 97402 541-790-7700 | info@4j.lane.edu

4J focus

Eugene School District 4J, guided by the leadership of Superintendent Andy Dey and the school board, has three major priorities.

1

2

Meaningful engagement and timely communication

A coordinated focus on equitable access and advancement for all, with an amplified focus on the desires of those who have been historically underserved

Safety and well-being for students and staff

Key Information for Families

Update contact information

Has your phone number, email or emergency contacts changed? Make sure your school has your current contact information so you can receive important messages. Update your contact information through ParentVue or by contacting your school office.

Eat free

All 4J students will continue to receive free meals at school this year, regardless of family income, with funding coming from the district's general budget. Consider applying for free meal verification for additional benefits and to save our district as much as \$1,309 a year per student. Visit *4j.lane.edu/nutrition* or call 541-790-7656.

Getting to school

Students are encouraged to walk, bike, ride the bus, or use other forms of active and shared transportation. To learn more about school bus routes, active transportation assistance and free LTD bus passes, visit *4j.lane.edu/transportation* or call 541-790-7474.

Know your rights

Annual notices of legal rights and optout forms, such as student directory information, teaching and curriculum, teacher qualifications, and student rights and responsibilities, are available at *4j.lane.edu/annual-notices* or by calling 541-790-7712.

Connect with mental health support

Many students struggle at times. If your child needs support for mental health, talk to your school counselor or another trusted adult at your school. For other mental health resources, visit *4j.lane.edu/mentalhealth-resources*.

Join with 4J

Follow 4J on social media to celebrate students, staff and schools, learn about upcoming events and opportunities, and join the conversation.



facebook.com/4Jschools instagram.com/4Jschools vimeo.com/4Jschools



Family Engagement



TAKE A LOOK: NEW 4J WEBSITE LAUNCHES

We are pleased to unveil 4J's new website, designed to enhance communication, accessibility and user experiences for everyone in our educational community. After months of hard work and collaboration, we are proud to present a fresh online platform that offers an array of exciting features and improvements to greatly enhance your online experience with our district and your school. Check it out: *4j.lane.edu*.



LOG IN TO PARENTSQUARE

To improve engagement and connection with your school and our district, we have implemented a new schoolto-home communication system called ParentSquare. This secure platform combines school and district communications into one, easy-to-use system. Once you have created an account, school and district information will be sent to your computer or phone via email

and/or text, depending on your preferences. Download the ParentSquare app or login at *parentsquare.com*.







We are stronger when we listen, and smarter when we share. -Raia Al-Abdullah



LET'S TALK: A NEW WAY TO DIALOGUE WITH 4J

The Let's Talk online platform provides an an accessible way to ask questions, report concerns, and provide feedback 24/7 from any device. We're listening! Look for the "Contact us" pop-up bar on our website or visit *4j.lane.edu/letstalk*.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

4J welcomes the enthusiasm and assistance of volunteers in schools. Volunteer opportunities include tutoring students in reading and math, mentoring middle school students, assisting on field trips, helping in school libraries, and more. For specific opportunities, contact the school directly. For more information on how to become a volunteer, please visit *4j.lane.edu/volunteers* or email volunteersupport@4j.lane.edu.

ATTEND A PUBLIC MEETING

The school board, budget committee and equity committee all hold public meetings. The board and committees encourage public participation and allow time at each regular meeting for public testimony. Meeting times, agendas, streaming information and recordings can be found at *4j.lane.edu/board* or by calling 541-790-7706.

SUPPORT EUGENE EDUCATION FOUNDATION (EEF)

As the nonprofit fundraising arm for 4J schools, EEF solicits donations and supports sitebased fundraising efforts to increase enrichment opportunities for all students. Learn more: *eeflane.org*.



focus:

"Meaningful engagement and timely communication"

We are dedicated to fostering positive relationships, building trust and effectively communicating and engaging with our families. We seek to build an environment where parents are empowered to support their child's learning and overall development.



Equitable Access & Advancement



Until we get **equity** in **equity** in we won't have an equal society.

—Justice Sonia Sotomayor

KINDERGARTEN SMART START

Starting kindergarten has changed in Eugene 4J to better support our youngest students' needs and set them up for a successful K–12 journey. The new Kindergarten Smart Start program provides a staggered start and dedicated time for staff to meet with families during the first eight days of school. The smaller class sizes and connection with families allow teachers the opportunity to better understand each child's unique academic and social strengths and needs from the very beginning, improving the start of school for all our learners. Learn more: *4j.lane.edu/kindergarten*.

EARLY LITERACY

A new 4J initiative aimed at improving reading skills will embed instructional coaches in elementary schools to support teachers implementing the new bond-funded language arts curriculum. These site-based literacy coaches will enhance instructional practices, resulting in better reading outcomes for students.

COLLEGE READINESS

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is an international college readiness program designed to increase the college-going culture of schools. Since introducing AVID in 2008, our district has expanded the program to serve all 4J high schools and middle schools, plus two elementary schools. We are focused on expanding AVID to make it available to students at all 4J schools.

GROWING CTE

Building on the success of 4J's CTE (career technical education) pathways program, we are opening the Center for Applied Learning & Community Engagement in the fall of 2023 to expand CTE opportunities for students. In partnership with industry professionals, 4J is committed to providing students with authentic project-based learning so they have the skills and knowledge for high-wage/high-demand jobs after graduation.

AFFINITY GROUPS

Students of shared identity characteristics are provided time and space to join together in a space where they make up the majority. Affinity groups help students develop healthy self-identities



and build networks both within and beyond the group through sharing experiences and belonging strategies. Affinity groups are school-based and facilitated by a 4J staff member. Learn more: *4j.lane.edu/affinity* or contact your school.

Affinity groups available to students (varies by school):

APISU: Asian, Pacific Islander Student Union BSU: Black Student Union GSA: Gender Sexuality Alliance LSU: Latinx Student Union NASU: Native American Student Union NDSU: Neurodivergent Student Union JSU: Jewish Student Union

SCHOOL CHOICE

The district's school choice policy means that any student in the district may request to attend any 4J school. Families who live outside of the district may request a transfer to 4J. Regardless of which school you choose, your child will receive an excellent education. January is school choice month for in-district families; March is when families from out-of-district can apply for a transfer to a 4J school. Learn more: *4j.lane.edu/choice,* or contact schoolchoice@4j.lane.edu, 541-790-7553.

DIVERSIFYING 4J'S WORKFORCE

We are committed to building a workforce that more closely resembles the students and families we serve. 4J's Grow Your Own program is designed to diversify our workforce so that we can internally and intentionally grow in our understanding and support of our community.

focus:

"A coordinated focus on equitable access and advancement for all with an amplified focus on the desires of those who have been historically underserved"

We are committed to prioritizing the needs and desires of student groups who have historically faced significant challenges and barriers to achieving academic success. We strive to create an inclusive and nurturing educational environment where every student feels valued, supported and inspired to excel.



Safety & Well-Being



CARE & ADVOCACY

We are dedicated to the well-being of every student. Our commitment is rooted in creating a supportive and inclusive environment where all students can thrive academically, socially and emotionally. Through strong partnerships with health care providers and other community organizations, we provide students and their families with access to a comprehensive range of support services to meet the needs of our students.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

We take the safety of our students very seriously. The district follows the Standard Response Protocol, including Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate and Shelter protocols. Learn more: *4j.lane.edu/SRP*.

Schools routinely practice fire evacuation, lockdown and earthquake drills. 4J has a districtwide emergency manual, including guidelines for how to deal with serious injury, a hazardous material spill, or dangerous intruders. Each school also has developed its own procedures to respond quickly and appropriately to emergency situations.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

If an urgent situation arises, we will notify families using ParentSquare via a text and/or email. However, messages are not instantaneous, as staff must have time to send a message with clear and confirmed information. Please do not go to the school or call the school during emergencies. Staff will be focused on student safety and will not be able to assist you. Additionally, a flood of incoming calls can overwhelm the phone system and make internal communication difficult. If your contact information changes, be sure to let your school know.

SNOW DAYS / OTHER SCHOOL CLOSURES AND DELAYS

NO NEWS = NO CHANGE. Families will be notified of weatherrelated school closures and delays through ParentSquare. The information also will be posted on the district's website and social media (Facebook & Instagram) by 6:30 a.m. that day. Local news media, including the school district's radio station, KRVM-FM 91.9, provide regular updates on mornings that schools must be closed or delayed. Families are encouraged to consider road conditions in their areas and make their own decisions based on safety. Learn more: *4j.lane.edu/weather*.

SUICIDE PREVENTION PLAN

To support the mental health of students and address the risk of youth suicide, the district has adopted a comprehensive suicide prevention plan. The plan outlines prevention and intervention procedures, staff training components, and addressing the needs of high-risk groups, including LGBTQIA+ students and students of color. Learn more: *4j.lane.edu/suicide-prevention*.

SAFEOREGON TIPLINE

All students and community members are encouraged to immediately report to a school staff member or law enforcement officer any rumors or threats of school violence, situations that may be potentially violent or seriously harmful to a person, or other concerning behavior. The SafeOregon tipline at *safeoregon.com*, is another way school or student safety concerns can be reported, even anonymously. If you perceive a risk as imminent, call 911.



focus:

"Safety and well-being for students and staff"

We are committed to creating a secure and nurturing environment for everyone within our educational community. Our objective encompasses implementing comprehensive safety protocols, including emergency preparedness plans and robust security measures. We support the emotional and mental health of students and staff by providing services and proactive initiatives to foster overall well-being and a sense of belonging.

If you see someone without a **Smile** give them one of **YOURS.** -Dolly Parton

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

Immunization: State law requires that before a child starts school, the parent or guardian must show compliance with state immunization requirements. Students who have incomplete or insufficient immunization records will be excluded from school starting on the annual state-designated Exclusion Day in February. Learn more: *4j.lane.edu/immunization*.

Exemptions: A parent may seek a medical or non-medical exemption from one or more required immunizations. Learn more: *bit.ly/immunizationexemptions*.

Student health care: All 4J students have access to two health centers located at Churchill and North Eugene high schools. Both health centers are staffed with a nurse practitioner, a health assistant and a mental health therapist. Same-day appointments for physicals and illness care are usually available. Churchill: 541-790-5227 | North Eugene: 541-790-4445. Learn more: *4j.lane. edu/healthcare-providers*.

Special health issues: Parents or guardians of students with health issues who may require health care during the school day (e.g. diabetes, asthma, seizures or severe allergies) should contact their school two weeks prior to the start of school.

District Directory

QUICK LINKS

District Website: 4j.lane.edu

General Inquiries: 4j.lane.edu/letstalk

Boundaries: 4j.lane.edu/boundaries

Bus Stops: 4j.lane.edu/busroutes

Communications: 4j.lane.edu/communications

Complaints: 4j.lane.edu/complaints

Curriculum: 4j.lane.edu/curriculum

Enrollment: 4j.lane.edu/enroll

Equity Resources: 4j.lane.edu/equity/programs

Eugene Education Foundation: *eeflane.org*

Health Services: 4j.lane.edu/health

Human Resources: 4j.lane.edu/hr

Jobs: 4j.lane.edu/jobs

Legal Rights & Opt-Out Forms: *4j.lane.edu/annual-notices*

Meals: 4j.lane.edu/nutrition

Mental Health Resources: 4j.lane.edu/mental-health-resources Natives Program: 4j.lane.edu/nativesprogram

ParentSquare: 4j.lane.edu/parentsquare

Testing Opt Out: 4j.lane.edu/testing-opt-out

Title IX: 4j.lane.edu/title-ix

Report a Safety Concern: safeoregon.com/report-a-tip

School Board: 4j.lane.edu/board

School Calendar: 4j.lane.edu/calendar

School Choice: 4j.lane.edu/choice

Schools: 4j.lane.edu/schools

Special Education: 4j.lane.edu/studentservices

Staff Directory: 4j.lane.edu/directory

Student Rights & Responsibilities: 4j.lane.edu/srrh

Tech Help: 4j.lane.edu/tech-help

Transcripts: 4j.lane.edu/studentrecordrequests

Transportation: 4j.lane.edu/transportation

Volunteer: 4j.lane.edu/volunteers

<image>

PHONE NUMBERS

Main District Line	541-790-7700
Alternative Education Options	541-790-6850
Boundaries (Attendance Area)	541-790-7712
Communications	541-790-7734
English Language Development (EL	D) 541-790-6872
Eugene Education Foundation	541-790-7744
Eugene Online Academy	541-731-7563
Facilities Management	541-790-7400
Financial Services	541-790-7670
Food and Nutrition Services	541-790-7656
Health Services	541-790-8102
Homeless Student Services	
(McKinney-Vento Program)	
Human Resources (Personnel)	
Instructional Services	541-790-7550
International Students	541-790-7553
Job Opportunities	541-790-7670
KRVM Radio	541-790-6686
NATIVES Program	541-790-5900
Records/Transcripts	541-790-7712
Registrar	541-790-7712
Safe Routes to School	541-790-7539
School Board Information	541-790-7706
School Choice	541-790-7553
Schools, General Information	541-790-7550
Student Services Department	
(Special Education)	
Speech and Language Program	
Superintendent's Office	
Talented and Gifted (TAG)	
Technology	
Title I Programs	
Title IX	
Transfers and Exchanges	
Transportation/Bus Routes	
Volunteer Information	541-790-7537

2023-24 School Calendar

Eugene School 4 District

SEPT	6	First day: Kindergarten, grades 6 & 9
	6-15	Kindergarten Smart Start. See details below
	7	First day: Grades 1–5, 7–8, 10–12
OCT	13	No school — Professional development
VOV	Q	No school — Mid-term grading
	10	No school — Veterans Day
	20-22	No school — Parent/teacher conferences (varies by school)
	23–24	No school — Thanksgiving Break
DEC	18-29	No school — Winter Break
JAN	-	No school — Winter Break
	2	No school — Professional development
	15	No school — Martin Luther King Jr. Day
FEB	-	No school — Semester grading
	2	No school — Transition day
	G	Second semester begins
	19	No school — Presidents Day (Possible hazardous weather makeup day)
MAR	25-29	No school — Spring Break
APR	-	No school — Professional development
	12	No school — Mid-term grading
MAY	27	No school — Memorial Day
JUN	7	Elementary only: No school — grading
	13	Possible last day for students*
	17-18 & beyond	Possible hazardous weather makeup days*
KI	NDERGA	KINDERGARTEN SMART START SCHEDULE

Mon 9/18	Regular school schedule resumes
Thur-Fri 9/14-15	No kindergarten — Parent/teacher conferences
Wed 9/13	All kindergarten students
Fri 9/8 Tues 9/12	Kinders with last names M-Z only
Thurs 9/7 Mon 9/11	Kinders with last names A-L only
Wed 9/6	All kindergarten students
SCHEDUL	KINDERGARTEN SMART START SCHEDULE

I kindergarten students	Wed 0/6
inders with last names A-L only	Thurs 9/7 Mon 9/11
inders with last names M-Z only	Fri 9/8 Tues 9/12
ll kindergarten students	Wed 9/13
o kindergarten — arent/teacher conferences	Thur-Fri 9/14–15
egular school schedule resumes	Mon 9/18

Learn more: 4j.lane.edu/kindergarten

3 10 24	Marc 4 5 11 1: 18 1: 25 2 June	25	Ser 11 4 €
11 12 13		cen 5 12 26	т 5 12 26
5 19 26	2024 h 2024 h 2024 h 2024	December 4 5 6 11 12 13 18 19 20 25 26 27	13 6 V
27 28 🔂 6	24 7 14 21 28		[™] 28
14	1 15 22	2023 1 7 8 14 15 21 22 28 29	M T W T F September 2023 4 5 6 7 8 11 12 13 14 15 18 19 20 21 22 25 26 27 28 29
	☆ 29 22 15 8 <mark>- </mark>	ال 8 <mark>1 2</mark> 29	2 <mark>0</mark> 9 2 3 23
START OF SEI NO SCHOOL NO SCHOOL conferences (school) POSSIBLE MA	April 1 2 8 9 15 16 15 22 29 30 29 30	January 1 2 3 8 9 1 15 16 1 22 23 2 29 30 3	M T W October 2 3 4 9 10 1 16 17 1 16 17 1 23 24 2 30 31
START OF SEMESTER NO SCHOOL — Elementary onl NO SCHOOL — Parent/teacher conferences (schedule varies by school) POSSIBLE MAKEUP DAY	0111 2024 2 3 4 9 10 11 1 5 16 17 18 1 2 23 24 25 2 9 30 30 30 30 10	ary 3 3 10 5 17 5 17 3 24 3 17 3 17 3	W 9000000000000000000000000000000000000
MESTER — Elementary only — Parent/teacher schedule varies by MKEUP DAY	24 4 0 11 7 18 4 25		2023 1 5 1 12 8 19 5 26
ntary o Vteache varies l	5 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26	024 4 5 11 12 18 19 25 26	5 6 F 6 27 5
nly er	^ح 19 5 26 26	6 9 N V	V 0 0 5
school: as hazz makeu More I and em please	Maxeup d *Makeup d	12 5	6 Ko
s s carch ridous v p days r p days Fo nployee visit 4/./	7 7 14 21 28 28	bru > 6 13 20 27	₹ 7 14 28
schools are closed for reasons such as hazardous weather ("snow days"), makeup days may be scheduled. More Info: For other calendar formats and employee work calendars, please visit 4 <i>j.lane.edu/calendars</i> .	Image 2024 1 2 6 7 8 9 13 14 15 16 20 21 22 23 2 27 28 29 30 30 30 *Makeup days: Please be aware that this calendar may change if *Makeup days: Please be aware than a subscience if	February 5 6 7 12 13 14 19 20 21 26 27 28	M T W November 1 6 7 8 13 14 15 1 20 21 22 2 27 28 29 3
reason reason schedu schedu calenda alendar <i>/calend</i>	1 9 16 23 30		[™] 2 2 16 30
y-c. " s such v days"), iled. ar forma rs, fars,	10 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 31	2024 1 2 8 9 15 16 22 23 29	T F 2028 2 3 9 10 9 10 16 17 23 24
, sts			

Tear out here



Eugene School District 4J 200 N. Monroe Street Eugene, Oregon 97402 541-790-7700 | info@4j.lane.edu www.4j.lane.edu

Nonprofit org U.S. Postage **PAID** Eugene, OR 97401 Permit No. 201

See reverse side for tear-out calendar

Este manual está también disponible en español, visite 4j.lane.edu/ publications o llame al 541-790-7707

G C ie I can count on you

AVE



