

# Ashbrook Compass



We are often asked here in the office, “How are you all doing with everything that’s going on?” The answer to this question is, “We are doing really well!” and we truly are! Our office team is just that, a fabulous, hardworking TEAM. We find ourselves daily laughing together (it is the best medicine right?), sharing stories, supporting each other, and working in collaboration to keep our incredible school running smoothly. I am thankful for such a great group of professionals to spend my day with and I had to stop them to take a picture of the “behind the scenes” work happening here every day at Ashbrook.

Have a great weekend!

Rachel Sechler

## CHALLENGE – NURTURE – CARE - 2020



Miss Michelle tracking attendance



Mr. Trueblood sanitizing the playground



Mr. Tunnissen setting up a projector



Mr. Patane taking lunches to the classrooms



Ms. Terry cleaning a desk after lunch



Ms. Tynon working on the Compass



Mr. McMurtrey about to clean



Mrs. Sechler, Miss Carol, and Miss Elaine up to no good

## This week:

**October 26-27** -- Pumpkin drop-off

**October 28** -- Final day of Socktober--make sure you bring them in!

**October 28-29** -- Pumpkin voting open

**October 29** -- 5th grade pick-up, 3-5 pm

**October 30** -- Halloween Spooktacular

## Upcoming Dates:

**November 4** -- PTO Zoom meeting, 9 am

**November 5** -- Teacher conferences; Half-Day, dismiss at 12 noon

**November 6** -- Teacher conferences; No School

**November 11** -- Veterans Day; No School

**November 13** -- Middle School 'A Week' schedule

## Please do your part to keep us all safe

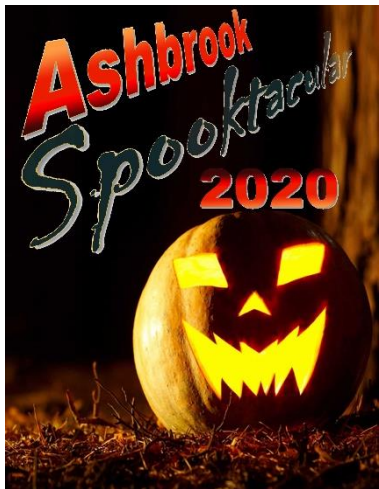
As everyone settles into the new way of school, work, and life it is very easy to start to fall back into some old habits and forget the increasing importance of maintaining all the safety practices we've all worked hard to put in place this year. Please do your part to help us stay in school by following the expectations below every single day. We need your help!

- **Wear a face covering** correctly (over nose and mouth), cover your cough, and wash your hands. These standard COVID-19 prevention measures are still the number one priority to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
  - Continue to **minimize non-essential trips**. Reducing the number of daily interactions you have with others outside your household reduces the risk of encountering someone with COVID-19.
  - **Gather socially only with the same group**, aka 'pod.' Choose 2-3 households, or 5-10 people, that you trust to create a closed loop — each household in the pod does not have physical contact with households outside the pod.
  - **Get a flu shot**. Although the flu vaccine does not protect you from COVID-19, the symptoms of influenza and COVID-19 can be similar. Protect yourself from the flu this fall and winter by getting a flu vaccine. Standard COVID-19 prevention measures will protect you from both flu and COVID-19.
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## Ashbrook Spooktacular 2020

The Ashbrook staff will be hosting the first ever **Ashbrook Spooktacular** on Friday, October 30th!

This socially distanced and cohort-sorted event will include a trunk-parade for all students, who can then vote on their favorite trunk. For our Middle Schoolers, we will have a costume-contest and a pumpkin-chunkin' event!



That's right--students who are attending school remotely are welcome to come in costume and participate!

- 4th grade- parents will drop off in fire lane for screening at 1:45 and park in the lot until their students are released back to them at 2:00
- 5th/6th grade parents will drop off in fire lane for screening at 3:15 and pick up in the same spot from 4:00-4:15
- 7th/8th grade parents will drop off in fire lane for screening at 3:35 and pick up in the same spot from 4:15-4:30

Please be sure to take your student's temperature at home before they attend this event!

Students will not be able to attend if we haven't received your completed Parent Commitment form and you have not yet reviewed the "When Should I Keep My Student Home?" document that was sent out at the beginning of the school year (available [HERE](#)).

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## Halloween Costume Expectations

Students will be wearing their costumes to school and for the duration of the day on October 30th. Please follow these expectations as we do our best to have a fun and safe day:

- School appropriate costumes only - no blood, gore, or weapons
- Costumes should be comfortable for students to wear all day (even at recess) and manage independently - no teacher help with tying, zipping, buttoning, etc.
- Students should wear regular shoes for recess.

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## Pumpkin Carving Contest

The pumpkin carving contest is back! Any 4th-8th grader can enter a carved pumpkin for judging. Pumpkins should be dropped off on the metal cart by the front door on Monday October 26 or Tuesday October 27. (Don't forget to put the student's name on a piece of paper inside the pumpkin or tape it to the side.) Voting is October 28-29; PK-3 students will vote during the school day, and 4-8th graders will be able to vote virtually after we post pictures. Prizes will be awarded at the October 30 Ashbrook Spooktacular 2020 event.

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## Parent Volunteer Hours Update

As we noted in our reopening plans, we are waiving the traditionally required 36 parent volunteer hours this year due to the inability to provide families with ample opportunities to volunteer. However, we still have a few volunteer needs around the school during these virtual times. We know some parents have already put in a few hours helping plan events or supporting the school in other ways. Please keep track of any volunteer hours you do this year as you will be able to put those hours towards next year's hours! Thank you for all your help!

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## November Lunch forms

Don't forget to turn in your order form for November lunches. If you need another form, you can find it [HERE](#).

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## **Socktober Update**

The socks are piling up but we're still not done! You have until Wednesday, October 28, to turn them in. Thank you to everyone who has donated socks so far!!

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## **PTO Staff Appreciation Committee**

The Staff Appreciation committee is looking for volunteers to help celebrate Ashbrook's dedicated staff for the 2020/21 school year. If you are interested in being involved, please contact Elizabeth Richardson.

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## **Current Metrics**

According to the Benton County Health Department and the Oregon Department of Education, we are able to continue with in-person classes for K-3 as long as we have no positive cases within our school community unless directed otherwise by the Benton County Health Department.

The metrics for grades 4-8 returning to the building remain the same: Benton County must have fewer than 10 cases per 100,000 and a test positivity rate of under 5% for 3 consecutive weeks. For the most up-to-date numbers, visit the Oregon Health Authority's COVID-19 Health page [HERE](#).