September 25, 2020 ( ) Action Required

Due date:

( X ) Informational

# BULLETIN NO. 079-20 SCHOOL FACILITIES AND ORGANIZATION

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents

School District Superintendents

School District Business Managers

School District Facility and Capital Directors

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Temporarily Reopening Certain Schools to Help Facilitate Social Distancing

CONTACT: Randy Newman, Director, School Facilities and Organization

360-725-6267, [randy.newman@k12.wa.us](mailto:randy.newman@k12.wa.us)

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 392.347.042 requires that facilities replaced with funding from the School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP) be either demolished or no longer used for K–12 instructional purposes. However, in certain exceptional circumstances, schools that were closed under WAC 392.347.042 may be temporarily reopened for K–12 instructional purposes.

### Temporarily Reopening Buildings to Facilitate Social Distancing

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has determined that temporarily reopening buildings in order to facilitate social distancing is a valid exemption under WAC 392.347.042(3).

Districts that have buildings that were closed in order to comply with WAC 392.347.042 are encouraged to contact OSPI’s School Facilities and Organization department for instructions on how to apply for this exemption in order to facilitate social distancing.

Buildings that are approved for temporary reopening as a way to meet social distancing requirements would be allowed to remain open for the 2020–21 school year, with the possibility of an extension if it becomes evident that social distancing will be required beyond the 2020–21 school year.

## INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact your Regional Coordinator or School Facilities and Organization at 360-725-6265 or email [schoolfacilities&organization@k12.wa.us](mailto:schoolfacilities&organization@k12.wa.us). The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

Regional Coordinators:

* East: John Heinley – 360-725-6262 or [john.heinley@k12.wa.us](mailto:john.heinley@k12.wa.us)
* Southwest: Phil Partington – 360-725-6221 or [phil.partington@k12.wa.us](mailto:phil.partington@k12.wa.us)
* Northwest: John McLaren – 360-725-0414 or [john.mclaren@k12.wa.us](mailto:john.mclaren@k12.wa.us)

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins](https://www.k12.wa.us/bulletinsmemos) page of the OSPI website.

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CR:sn

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