



August 7, 2020

Dear Scottsdale Unified Families,

We are excited to begin the 2020-2021 school year this coming Monday, August 10. While the start of this school year will be very different from any other, it is important to emphasize that we are looking forward to engaging with each student and family to ensure this school year is the best it can possibly be.

We are proud that Scottsdale Unified School District (SUSD) is now a 1:1 technology district. All students are provided the option to check out a District technology device. In all cases, it is important to adhere to the **Technology and Network Resource Policy** and the **Technology Responsible Use Agreement** found on pages 17 – 19 of the [SUSD Uniform Code of Conduct](#). This document is readily available for review on the District homepage at www.susd.org under 'Popular Links' and in the 'Parents' and 'Students' directories found in the menu at the top of every SUSD web page – filed under 'C' for Code of Conduct. While students in grades 7 – 12 have already been using District provided Gmail e-mail accounts, students in grades K – 6 have now been issued a Gmail email account to better facilitate distance learning. All of the same rules and expectations apply. You can learn about Digital Citizenship by visiting <https://www.common sense.org/education/digital-citizenship/curriculum>.

Visit the [Information Technology page \(tech.susd.org\)](#) of the SUSD website for information and user guides for your student's Surface Go and Chromebooks. You will also see information there on how to change a student password. We have also created a [video](#) for students that instructs them on how to access their online learning platforms.

To help your student's school year get off to a great start, we have compiled a parent resource document that you can use to familiarize yourself with the online learning and communications platforms your student will be using. Find that document [here](#).

Having issues or need some assistance? Please contact the IT Help Desk at 480-484-HELP (4357) for assistance with your technology-related questions. The IT Help Desk is holding special hours this weekend and will be open to assist from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday August 8 and Sunday, August 9.

Code of Conduct Acknowledgement

The Code of Conduct Release Form has recently been [updated](#). Please note **the following two additions**:

1. *Student Gmail Accounts (susdgapps.org)*

As explained above, previously, this permission was previously only applicable to students in grades 7 - 12. Due to the expansion of distance learning for all students, we are asking parents/guardians of all K – 12 students to tell us whether we have permission to issue a Gmail account to your student(s). Please note, students will only be able to send and receive e-mails within the SUSD Gmail system. They will not be able to send or receive messages to or from external sources.

2. *COVID-19 Acknowledgement*

As a prerequisite for the District's insurance coverage, the Scottsdale Unified School District is required to have families acknowledge that regardless of all of our efforts to comply with the safety guidelines for prevention, we cannot guarantee that people will not be exposed to the coronavirus, COVID-19. The District has made the decision not to *require* a waiver, but the acknowledgment is deemed important.

Student Meals

As we 'Return to Learn' on August 10, SUSD students, including Scottsdale Online students, will be offered the opportunity to receive meals in a drive-through curbside service from 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Monday through Friday at five district sites. All students who qualify for free and reduced meals will be

offered the meals at no cost. We encourage all families to apply for free and reduced meal benefits at www.susd.org/Meals. Families who do not qualify may purchase the meals at the regular prices (\$1.50 per breakfast and \$2.85 per lunch) via student account charges. A separate communication with more detail on meals is forthcoming. Please visit www.susd.org/Meals for curbside meal service locations and benefits application.

Athletics

On Wednesday, August 5, the Arizona Interscholastic Association altered the start dates for fall high schools sports and issued [AIA Fall Sports Modifications](#) to provide guidance and match/game modifications for schools, administrators, coaches and players to follow in accordance with NFHS (National Federation of State High School Associations), state and local restrictions and recommendations. Look for more information forthcoming for how SUSD is working to implement this new guidance.

Enhanced Distance Learning (EDL) Camps

SUSD will host onsite student-support programs at select schools within the district, beginning Monday, August 10 in a program we call Enhanced Distance Learning (EDL) camps. These camps are for families that need a supervised place for students to go while school sites are closed. Camps are available during regular school hours, free of charge, to currently enrolled Scottsdale Unified families. While our initial five EDL camps have filled up, we are looking at the possibility of adding additional sites to accommodate the needs of our families. [If you are interested in an EDL Camp, please express that by completing this form.](#)

Safety is Our Priority

As we prepare to start the school year, we want to share that on August 6, 2020, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) released health benchmarks for school districts to use in deciding when to [Safely Return to In-Person Instruction](#). The guidance does not change the status of SUSD's reopening plans at the present time, which will be to continue to instruct all students in a virtual environment until at least September 8.

In order to be prepared to review and process the guidance from ADHS, we have re-engaged the Operations and Logistics subcommittee to focus on the Health and Safety protocols. The committee is composed of 28 individuals that include nurses, a physician, public health and psychology professionals. We are committed to reviewing the guidance released yesterday and helping our leadership team and the SUSD Governing Board make the necessary decisions to ensure student and staff safety. The goal is to prepare a recommendation for consideration by the Governing Board at its August 18, 2020 regularly scheduled meeting. The meeting agenda and any related documents, as well as a link to our YouTube channel where you can tune in live or catch a replay, is available at www.susd.org/Board.

Stay informed by visiting the latest information on [SUSD's Return to School plan](#) (www.susd.org/Reopen) and [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (www.susd.org/FAQ).

Be sure to visit your school's website often for specific information from your Principal in the announcements scroll and find our new, easy to find Single Sign On button on the top left.

- View a list of school websites and contact information at www.susd.org/Schools.
- Find a list of all SUSD Principals at www.susd.org/Principals.
- Check out the 2020-2021 school year calendar at www.susd.org/Calendar.
- Follow your school and the District on social media: www.susd.org/Connect.
- Find the latest District updates at www.susd.org.

We hope you have a wonderful day on Monday as we Return to Learn. We are so excited to welcome you back, virtually and we look forward to the time where we can reunite safely back on campus.

Thank you,
Scottsdale Unified School District