August 21, 2020

Dear Scottsdale Unified Families,

We are wrapping up the second week of the new school year and are pleased to report that students and teachers are settling into their online learning routines. While it hasn’t always been easy, we thank you for all of the extra support you are offering right now in this time of distance learning.

As you may recall, in approving the District’s “Return to Learn Plan” at its July 9 meeting, the Scottsdale Unified School District (SUSD) Governing Board indicated that the earliest we would return to learning in person would be September 8, but that the final determination would be driven by public health data.

Yesterday, the Maricopa County Department of Public Health updated its weekly data dashboard of metrics that school districts are recommended to use to advise reopening decisions. The data can be viewed at the county, city, school district and zip code level. SUSD has decided to use zip code data because it provides the best, most current data available to capture currently enrolled SUSD students.

The numbers continue to show improvement and, if the trend continues next week, put us in a position to implement a hybrid/phased-in return to learn in person beginning September 8. How that will look is still being finalized, but next week’s data indicators will be critical in confirming that it is safe to resume an intermediate level of in-person instruction.

There will be a Special Meeting of the Governing Board at 5 p.m. on September 1 to discuss in more detail a plan to phase in on-campus learning, once the metrics indicate it is safe to do so. Visit www.susd.org/Board 24 hours before the meeting begins to find a copy of the meeting agenda and any presentations, as well as the link to our YouTube channel where you can watch the video live or replay at your convenience.

**Grades K–8 EDL Camps and Grades 6-12 Walk-in Learning Labs**

In compliance with Executive Order 2020-51, SUSD provides a supervised place for our K - 8 students to be during the school day while parents work. We have five of these Enhanced Distance Learning, or EDL, Camps, located at Desert Canyon Elementary, Hopi Elementary, Pima Traditional, Pueblo Elementary and Tonalea K-8. We still have availability at this time. You can read more about the program here. If you are interested in your child attending an EDL Camp, please complete this form.

Our Walk-in Learning Labs for middle and high schools opened this week at Coronado and Saguaro High schools. The labs provide students in grades 6 through 12 a safe place during the school day to participate in their online learning. Unlike the EDL Camps, students are not required to stay at the lab for the entire school day – they can come and go as needed. Read more about the labs here. If you wish your middle or high school student to attend an SUSD Learning Lab, please complete this request form.

**Immunization Compliance**

Please be aware that even if your child is attending school virtually or through an online platform, they are required to be current on immunizations. The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) is encouraging well visits with pediatricians so children maintain these requirements for school attendance.

**Parents of Pre-K, Kindergarten and 11-year-old students:** These are the grade levels and age groups most commonly affected by the ADHS immunization requirements.
- Pre-K: Please review the Preschool ADHS document and pay special attention to Hepatitis A vaccines that are specific to this age group.
- Kindergarten: Please review K-12 ADHS Document. Vaccines do not have an age parameter and are required to start Kindergarten, regardless of age at start of school.
- 11-year-old students: Please see attached K-12 ADHS document. Physicians will not give the vaccine earlier than 11-years-old, so please schedule appointments within a couple days of the 11th birthday.

The immunization requirements are as follows:

Any student who turns **11 years old** will be required to receive a Tdap (combined Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis) vaccine when at least five years have passed since the last dose of tetanus-containing vaccine.

**AND**

Any student who turns **11 years old** is also required to receive a Meningococcal Vaccine (MCV).

Please obtain a record as proof of immunizations given at the visit. Plan to provide the records to your school nurse; you can scan/e-mail copies to the school nurse’s office to have these immunizations added to your student’s profile as soon as possible.

Maricopa County Department of Public Health offers immunizations free of charge. Visit https://www.maricopa.gov/1809/Locations or call 602-506-6767 for more information.

**Student Advisory Board**
The Student Advisory Board (SAB) is a group of high school students from each high school in SUSD that comes together to problem solve and help shape the overall student experience. Students meet monthly with SUSD District Leadership to collaborate and share current concerns and opportunities for improvement. We are looking for student voices to contribute diverse points of view. Application due September 7, 2020 to your respective High School Principal. Find the application at www.susd.org/Superintendent.

**IT Help Desk**
Starting Monday August 24, SUSD Help Desk phone lines will be open to assist parents and students with technology questions and issues Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. For assistance, call (480) 484-HELP (484-4357). The Help Desk is closed on weekends.

**Device Protection Plan**
If you would like to participate in SUSD’s Device Protection Plan to help defer costs from accidental damage to SUSD-issued devices, please go to tech.susd.org. We have extended the deadline to Friday, August 28.

**PeachJar**
Did you know that our PeachJar digital flyer delivery service has saved 1,670 trees by converting paper flyers into e-mail notices? To view the latest digital flyers, be sure to visit our PeachJar page or find the PeachJar link on your school’s website homepage. PeachJar postings contain a variety of helpful information on health and safety, as well as programs and events happening within our community. Click on the drop-down menu to toggle from the District level view to your favorite schools.
Stay Up-to-Date
We continue to be in a quickly evolving environment in which information changes often, so please be sure to visit your school’s website for the latest updates and announcements.

- 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.
- Print a copy of 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.

Thank you for your continued patience as we work through these uncertain times. One thing that is certain, however, is our continued appreciation for the support you are providing to your students and our unwavering commitment to you and your families as we work our way toward seeing each other on school campuses again.

Until next week’s update,

Scottsdale Unified School District