



October 16, 2020

Hello, Scottsdale Unified Families,

We hope this weekly update finds you and your family safe and well.

### **COVID-19 Case Dashboard**

In an effort to be as transparent as possible, while preserving the protected health and identity of individuals, the District has generated a more detailed COVID-19 case count dashboard, found at [www.susd.org/COVID-19](http://www.susd.org/COVID-19). Look for “COVID-19 Case Dashboard” on the left navigation. These numbers are updated weekly. You will also be able to find the historical numbers from past weeks at the bottom of this web page.

### **Staying Open Means Staying Committed to Best Practices**

*As a reminder, our ability to remain open for on-campus learning and extracurricular activities is directly tied to everyone’s behavior in the community.*

- We expect staff and students to wear masks while on any school campus, school bus or other SUSD property. Maintaining these practices while not on school premises helps slow the spread of COVID in our community, as well.
- Hand washing, physical distancing and cleaning are some of the other activities we are undertaking each day to make sure students and employees are safe.

*We also need your help.*

- Please talk to your child about how these small actions on their part can help save the lives of vulnerable and at-risk people in our local community.
- Model best practices for your students by following public health guidance.
- We encourage you and any family members to remain in the vehicle when dropping off/picking up students.
- If someone does step out of a vehicle on school grounds, they are expected to wear a mask, in compliance with the [Maricopa County regulation](#) requiring face coverings.
- Recognize any [symptoms of illness](#) in your child and report them to the school nurse.
- **Do not send your child to school if they are exhibiting any signs of COVID-like illness or have been exposed to COVID-19 or have been confirmed to have COVID-19.**

### **COVID-19 Acknowledgment**

If you have not already signed the COVID-19 Acknowledgement form, we need you to do so *as soon as possible*. Please print, sign and return the form in [English](#) or [Spanish](#) as soon as possible. You may also receive a reminder from your school Principal to sign and return your Code of Conduct permissions form, including the COVID-19 acknowledgement. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Updated 2020-2021 School Year Calendar**

*The second quarter early release days on Oct. 28 and Nov. 18 have been cancelled.* In order to optimize student instructional time, students will attend school on Oct. 28 and Nov. 18 and follow their typical 2nd quarter schedule, rather than being released early on those days. The new school year calendars have been posted on the District’s website at [www.susd.org/Calendar](http://www.susd.org/Calendar), where you may download a printable copy in English and Spanish.

### **Parent/Teacher Conferences for Grades K - 8**

Parent/Teacher conferences take place next week. Find the schedule by grade level [here](#).

## **Technology Update**

SUSD is now a 1:1 district, which means that all students have been given the opportunity to check out a laptop. Each student will be required to bring a District-issued laptop or personal device for use during the school day. Students who did not check out an SUSD-issued laptop at the beginning of the school year are still able to check one out when they return to on-campus learning. Please contact your student's school for checkout information. Families may also purchase an optional device protection plan within 14 calendar days of checking out a device. For student user guides and information on the optional Device Protection Plan, please go to [tech.susd.org](http://tech.susd.org).

## **Help Desk New Hours**

The SUSD Information Technology Help Desk has new hours to serve you better: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Reach the Help Desk at 480-484-4357.

## **Preschool/Pre-K Registration**

Preschool/Pre-K registration is open. If you are interested in having your 3- or 4-year-old attend a licensed early childhood program with a certified teacher, then we invite you to the Scottsdale Unified School District's preschool program. Register today at [www.susd.org/Preschool](http://www.susd.org/Preschool). If you have any questions, please reach out to Debbie Ybarra at [dybarra@susd.org](mailto:dybarra@susd.org).

## **Kids Club**

Our before- and after-school care program, "Kids Club," is back up and running. Only a weekly purchase option is available at this time. Students need to be registered by 11:59 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the week. If you wish to register, but have missed the cut-off deadline, please contact the Community Ed office at 480-484-5062 or email us at [communityed@susd.org](mailto:communityed@susd.org). A \$25 late fee per program applies to all late registrations.

## **Free & Reduced Meal Applications**

A reminder to families that we continue to accept applications for free-and-reduced student meals. If your financial situation has changed or if you are unsure if you qualify, we encourage you to apply for free-and-reduced meal benefits since eligibility for this program may also open up opportunities for additional financial assistance for your family.

To apply, visit <https://family.titank12.com/TUJAZ9> and click "Apply for Meals Today." Another way to apply is to print out an application in [English](#) or [Spanish](#) and hand it in at your child's school. If you have any questions about our school lunch program, please call Nutrition Services at 480-484-6234.

## **Have Questions About COVID-19?**

We know that it can feel a bit unsettling to hear so much about COVID-19 and schools. If you have questions about COVID-19 and how it relates to your student(s), the Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) has three options available to assist you and answer your questions:

1. [Parent/Guardian FAQs](#): This online resource is the best place to start for information.
2. Call 2-1-1: Speak to someone directly using the new MCDPH hotline. **Dial 2-1-1**, then press option 6 for COVID-19, and then option 3 to connect to a Parent Hotline staff member.
3. [Email MCDPH](#): Submit your questions through this parent email form.

Thank you for your continued support of your student, and for your cooperation with our health and safety guidelines.

Respectfully,

Scottsdale Unified School District [Leadership Team](#)