



Hughson Unified School District

Educate ♦ Empower ♦ Excel

P.O. Box 189 ♦ 7448 Fox Road ♦ Hughson, CA 95326 ♦ 209-883-4428 ♦ Fax 209-883-4639

July 15, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I know you have been waiting to hear an update on the beginning of the 2020-21 school year for Hughson Unified. I wanted to have the chance to speak with our board on Tuesday night at the Board meeting so they were apprised of the situation we are facing. If you were unable to watch the Facebook Live of the Board meeting, I would like to give you some information as to how we will start our school year.

As I am sure many of you have heard, the school districts in Stanislaus County have been told by our County Public Health Director it is not safe to start school with in-person instruction on August 12th. This decision was based on the fact that the number of positive COVID-19 cases have increased by 2,600 over the past two weeks and our hospitals have reached staffing capacity. Because of her direction, we will be offering Distance Learning to all of our students beginning August 12th.

Distance Learning has changed quite a bit from what you experienced in the Spring. We will be providing a much more robust instructional program for our students with accountability and several avenues to meet your child's needs. Every student will have at least one hour of on-line instruction with a teacher every day. In addition, there will be assignments in the form of a packet or online that the student will be responsible for completing and turning in. Attendance and grading will count and it will be imperative that the student does his/her work every day. We will also be providing support in the areas of mental health, English Language Development, special education, and intervention.

Your site administrators will be contacting you with information on an orientation day that will happen between August 12th and 19th. We will be able to bring in very small groups of 5-10 that will be made up of students and one adult joining each of them to meet the teacher, hear expectations, get instructional materials, and learn about how you and your child will be able to communicate with teachers and the school. We will be having these meetings outside in the open air and will be practicing social distancing. Everyone will be following the State Health Directive and required to wear a face covering.

I would like to thank each of you for being our partners in the education journey. We know you have already had to do so much to help your child achieve while you are working and taking care of the responsibilities in your home. As we move forward into the new school year, please communicate with us to let us know if you have any questions or need help with anything. We are here to help you. Your child's teacher(s) and administrators will be available to you daily for communication and support.

Please encourage your family and friends to wear a face covering and avoid large gatherings so we can get our numbers in Stanislaus County under control so we can safely bring back our students to our classrooms. This will be a very different year, but as we look back on this historic event the grace that we show under pressure will be evident. We can and will do whatever it takes to make this work.

Stay healthy,

Brenda Smith
Superintendent