Our hearts are with the Firefighters & Residents affected by the Bighorn Fire





# Tanque Verde District News & Views

# TVUSD Return to Learning Plan 20-21

### July 3, 2020

On Wednesday, July 1, 2020 we sent an initial TVUSD Reopening Plan communication titled, *TVUSD Return to Learning 20-21*. In that communication, the two Executive Orders recently announced by Governor Ducey and their impact on TVUSD's reopening planning were addressed.

With this additional communication, we will provide more detailed information, including the Safety Measures which will be implemented once in-person learning can resume, and frequently asked questions with detailed answers and information. The FAQs will continue to be updated on the website as additional questions arise.

# COVID-19 Information Update

#### Arizona Delays the Physical Reopening of Schools to Target date: August 17, 2020

On Monday June 29th, 2020, Governor Ducey signed an Executive Order delaying the opening of in-person classes to at least August 17th. The TVUSD Governing Board will meet on July 8th to discuss. The <u>TVUSD Administrative team will recommend beginning the year online for all students on the previously scheduled school start date of Thursday, August 6th</u>. This recommendation is based on two factors:

- If the district were to delay the start to August 17th, it would require calendar changes to lengthen the school year into June or eliminate current scheduled breaks.
- August 17th is a <u>target</u> date and may be extended by the state, leaving district families and staff without a definitive date to resume in-person instruction.

An online remote reopening with a delayed in-person instruction option would allow schools to pay staff and to keep the school calendar as approved without adding weeks to the end of the school calendar or eliminating many of the scheduled school breaks.

This will be discussed in more detail at the July 8th Governing Board Meeting. We will keep our community informed as we have additional information and guidance.

#### **TVUSD Planning For When In-person Classes Resume**

On Wednesday June 24, 2020, Governor Ducey signed an Executive Order to provide schools flexibility for the 20-21 school year. The Executive Order is part of a set of actions the Governor announced for a program called **AZCares:** *Flexibility And Funding For Schools And Families. Read more here:* <u>AZCAres</u>

The AZCAres program allows the Tanque Verde School District to offer two distinct options once schools are reopened: a 5-days a week in-person learning option, and a 100% distance learning option as an alternative.

The program also includes elements intended to stabilize school funding for next year. It does not allow us to offer a hybrid option due to the requirement of providing participating students with the equivalent of 5 days a week of a physical location with supervision, even when participating in distance learning programs. We do not have the capacity or staffing to accommodate this.

#### TVUSD ~ Return to Learning Plan 20-21

Whether you return to the classroom or to the distance learning program, we are returning to LEARN in 20-21!

TVUSD will offer two distinct options for School Year 2020-21:

Option 1 - In-Person Learning Program

• Five-days a week full-day instruction at TVUSD schools.

Option 2 - Tanque Verde Distance Learning Program (TV DLP)

• Five-days a week 100% online/remote instruction using Edgenuity as the learning platform and supported by TVUSD teachers

#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

For more detailed information about the In-Person and Distance Learning Programs, please visit the Frequently Asked Questions Link on the COVID-19 Information Page on the district website.

Read more here: Parent FAQs - July 3, 2020

#### **TVUSD Return to Learning 20-21 Safety Measures**

The following current safety measures and precautions will allow students and staff to reduce risk for the In-Person Learning Option. As we refine these precautions, the district will continue to work with our staff members, local pediatricians, the Arizona Department of Health Services, and the Pima County Health Department. Families will be notified of any significant changes to daily procedures and/or protocols related to these Safety Measures.

#### Before leaving home

• A parent will check their child for any symptoms that would prevent them from attending/remaining at school.

• A parent will check that their child has at least one clean face covering and a filled water bottle with them.

Read more here: TVUSD Return to Learning Safety Measures

#### Indicating your Family's Decision for SY20-21

We will be sending out information the week of July 13th for how to choose which option parents

would prefer for their child(ren) - either 5-days a week of in-person instruction, or a full distance learning program. Although we explored the hybrid option in the survey, due to the requirements of the Governor's June 24th Executive Order, this is no longer a feasible option for our district and will not be available.

NOTE: Families are asked to make a commitment to at least the first quarter of instruction with the option they choose. Some exceptions may be made for students with special needs or circumstances.

#### June 24, 2020 Governing Board Meeting

#### **Survey Results**

The School Reopening Parent Preference Survey closed on June 24, 2020. The results of the Reopening Parent Preference Surveys were presented to the board, and are summarized below. The Staff Preference Survey results are included in the Governing Board Meeting Minutes. (see link below)

#### Parent Surveys Total Number Received 1,704

(of 2100 students) <u>School of Attendance</u>: Agua Caliente Elementary School 23.13% Tanque Verde Elementary School 27.23% Emily Gray Jr. High School 16.96% Tanque Verde High School 31.28% Tanque Verde Preschool Program 1.41%



We need your feedback! Please take a moment to complete the TVUSD School Reopening-Parent Preference Survey



Parent Surveys - Within the student's family there are <u>existing medical concerns</u>\* 23.43% \*This question was required by the Pima County Health Dept.

#### Parent Surveys - Instructional Preference

Percentage Ranking In-person Instruction 63.54% 3.39 (out of 4) Hybrid Instruction 24.09% 3.09 (out of 4) Full Remote/Online 11.88% 2.26 (out of 4) Other 4.53% 1.46 (out of 4)

#### Parent Surveys - Transportation

517 Previously Utilized District Transportation

Seat Assignments, spacing, and face mask 34.81% Keep Things the Same 31.32% Will not use transportation 24.02% Face masks required 9.84%

#### Parent Surveys - Face Masks

Staff and Students required to use mask when physical distancing is difficult 46.78% Face mask optional 37.89% Staff required, students optional 15.33%

For all the survey results as reported to the Governing Board, please follow this link: https://go.boarddocs.com/az/tvusd/Board.nsf/Public

Then go to: > Regular Meeting > View Agenda > Information & Discussion Items > Governing Board Update for School Year 2020-21 > Survey Results (multiple options)

#### **NEW!** Fall Registration/Fee Payment Now Online

Tanque Verde School District has TWO exciting announcements!

- Starting in the 2020/2021 school year, Fall Registration will take place ONLINE.
- TVUSD also has a new online school store for quick and easy access to view and pay all your school fees, for registration and throughout the school year!

Detailed information on fall registration and how to set up your online school store account will be sent out through each school's online newsletter in early July.

# STAY INFORMED!

Our school and district newsletters are the primary form of communication from TVUSD. It is imperative that you sign up for your school's newsletter to receive these details and other important communications from your school.

Head to your school's website at tanqueverdeschools.org to sign up!

# **Resources & Information:**

Governor Ducey, *AZCares: Flexibility And Funding For Schools And Families*, June 24, 2020

https://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/flexibility\_and\_funding\_for\_schools.pdf

CDC, *Considerations for Schools*, May 19, 2020 https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) COVID-19 Planning Considerations: Guidance for School Re-entry, June 26, 2020

https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/



Thank you for your interest in the Tanque Verde Unified School District!

