



Tucson Unified School District
Sahuaro High School
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July 23, 2020

Dear Sahuaro Families:

I hope you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. I also hope our students are getting the rest they need so we all can take on the challenges of this new school year with fresh spirits. The complexities and difficulties that surrounds our mission during the current pandemic is well understood. Last week, Dr. Trujillo proposed a plan for the Board and the public to consider. It clearly attempts to balance our health and safety concerns with State funding requirements, and the service needs of our families. I recommend everyone to review the proposal and see other updates on our District Next Steps 2020 webpage <http://www.tusd1.org/NextStepsfor2020>. In the meantime, here is what this plan would mean for our school.

Please know that our learning expectations for our students will be drastically different than they were at the end of last school year. We will continue to be very supportive of our individual family and students needs. Our faculty and staff will continue to work on solutions to the problems we will face with online learning. Still, we will expect students to attend their Zoom classes everyday, appropriately engage in their class and group discussions, collaborate with their peers on assigned projects, develop new technical skills, produce work, meet their deadlines, perform quizzes and exams, demonstrate mastery, collaborate, learn, and grow.

We developed a new online bell schedule for this time. On Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, students will only attend three classes a day online. Classes will last 90 minutes. On Wednesdays, students will attend all of their classes. This bell schedule will give our students more time to do their individual assignments, conference with their teachers in the morning or afternoon, and receive other services from the school outside of class time. You'll be hearing us use terms like "synchronous" and "asynchronous". Synchronous will mean students will meet together online at the same with their teacher. Asynchronous will mean that students will be working with their online assignments on their own. Regardless of the course or teacher, a typical period will have both synchronous and asynchronous time. Each period will start with roughly 30 minutes "synchronous" work, and then will break out into small group or individual "asynchronous" activities. This will help students to stay focused with each class, while avoiding screen burn out. We will post the details of the bell schedule for our online school once we receive approval.

Starting the week of July 27, we will start distributing devices curbside to students based on the survey results in ParentVue. Please complete this survey in ParentVue if you have not done so already. This is how we work with our District on device needs. We will share more details on our device distribution plan soon.

Starting July 30, students and families will be able to see their course schedule. There will be no need for in-person schedule pick up this year. Everything can be viewed online. If you see a mistake or need to request changes due to class level or program needs, you can email your student's counselor

directly or call the Counselling Department (731-7210). Counselor assignments are based on the students last names. Please know many classes are already full which will limit some schedule change requests. Additionally, we cannot change schedules for teacher preferences or to be in the same class with a friend.

A-G Mr. Tom Irwin Tom.Irwin@tusd1.org

H-O Mrs. Tracey Echols Tracey.Echols@tusd1.org

P-Z Mrs. Megan Boice Megan.Boice@tusd1.org

Starting August 10th, online teaching and learning will begin. Though things will look very different, we will be offering all of our traditional core and elective courses online, including foreign languages, fine arts, CTE, and PE. For consistency, all teachers will be using O365, Zoom, Clever and APEX (when available) to deliver their online instruction.

Starting August 17th, students can learn online at home or at school in designated learning spaces under adult supervision. I need to be clear that under this plan, students will not be receiving traditional classroom instruction while on campus. We will merely be providing a space for students to access their learning online. Our plans for supervision and designated learning spaces are still being developed. For the safety of all our students, staff, and their families, we will have very strict practices and social distancing protocols. So that we can prepare our space, sanitation schedules and supervision needs, please complete the survey located in your ParentVue accounts. If you need help accessing your ParentVue account, please call 731-7100 for our Attendance Office.

Our front office will be closed for training on Friday, July 24 and Monday, July 27.

Please know our plan can change very rapidly as we approach August 10. We will continue to communicate what those changes will mean for us. I am excited to see how our students, faculty, and staff will respond to our challenge. This situation will give our teachers and students some amazing opportunities sooner than any of us would have expected before now.

Sincerely,

Roberto A. Estrella
Principal