



CGUHSD COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

We are following protocols established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and working closely with both the Pinal County and Arizona Department of Health Services. At this time, there are still no known cases of COVID-19 in our school district, and the plan is for school to resume Monday, March 23rd, as scheduled. If this changes, you will be notified immediately.

Like you, many of our parents, staff, and family members have questions and we want to communicate answers in a timely manner. Please refer back to this page often, as this situation remains highly fluid, and decisions are being made rapidly. If there are updates or changes to the answers below, we will communicate immediately.

Will schools be open after Spring Break?

As of March 12, both CGUHSD schools are scheduled to resume on Monday, March 23rd. If this changes, families and staff will be notified immediately via CGUHSD app, website, email and phone notifications and social media platforms.

The State and County health departments have made no recommendations for the closures of schools. However, we are preparing for the possibility.

How will you decide whether or not to close schools?

We will consider the most important factor, which is the health and safety of our students and staff. We have regular communication with State and County health officials about community spread of COVID-19 and the proximity of any cases to Casa Grande.

We will also take employee absences, the impact of school closures on working families, food scarcity for students who rely on CGUHSD for meals, and the difficulty for some students to attend school remotely due to limited resources at home. We are actively working on plans related to these issues, in the event of a closure.

Any decision to close schools will be carefully considered and made in consultation with State and County officials.

Will field trips and athletics be canceled?

At this time, we are canceling all unnecessary, school related field trips and travel. Athletic practices and competitions will continue, following the guidelines of the AIA and Pinal County. Should this change, we will communicate these changes to you.

If schools remain open, should my children stay home?

Any parent wishing to keep children home amid concerns of COVID-19 may do so. Those absences will be excused per our attendance policy. CGUHSD requires the following students and staff to stay home:

- Anyone who is sick with cold, flu, or respiratory symptoms. Individuals must be fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication

- Anyone with an underlying medical condition that could place them at higher risk. (Families with a high-risk individual in the home may consider keeping healthy children home as well, as a precaution)
- Anyone who traveled to a high-risk country over spring break. These countries include China, Iran, Italy and South Korea. Visit the CDC travel web page for updated travel alerts. If you have traveled to one of these countries, you are asked to self-report to your child's school by calling the attendance line and leaving a message
- Additionally, the CDC has guidance for domestic travel. Please reconsider non-essential travel to U.S communities with active spread of COVID-19

Why should we be so concerned about the spread of COVID-19?

Although the spread of COVID-19 is similar to the flu, there is a higher infectious rate and quicker spread. Although children have not been found to be especially at-risk, the spread to vulnerable populations is concerning, and extra precautions should be taken to care for our entire community.

What will happen with state testing if there is a school closure or a large number of absences?

We are working with the Arizona Department of Education to ensure accommodations are made to timelines and other interruptions to the testing schedule.

Will CGUHSD be serving breakfast and lunch to eligible students if schools are closed?

We are working with our food service vendor to create a plan and put a schedule together. Details will be communicated to families and will be available on our website should this occur.

What has CGUHSD been doing to keep our children safe?

Information related to staying healthy and preventing the spread of germs and disease has been shared with teachers, students and parents. We also sent specific guidance about hygiene, health, and cleanliness. Our district has strict procedures for disinfecting high-touch surfaces, and we use EPA registered disinfectants often used in hospitals.

Where can I go for more information about community response to COVID-19?

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.pinalcountyz.gov/PublicHealth/Pages/PublicNotices.aspx?ID=3>

<https://www.azdhs.gov/index.php>

www.cguhsd.org

www.casagrandeaz.gov