

Casa Grande Union High School District

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July 28, 2021

CGUHSD Staff, Students and Families:

I would like to welcome back our staff, students, and families as we begin our new school year. We continue to strive to personalize learning and grow our students' talents through Integrated Technology, Workforce Development, and Increased Student Engagement in all aspects of student learning. As we begin this school year, I would like to assure you of our commitment to support a healthy school environment as we continue to cope with the impacts of the pandemic. Recently, we made available for public comment our "Safe Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan" and wish to thank everyone who contributed their input for consideration. This plan outlines our primary strategies for maintaining the health and safety of students, staff, and visitors to the schools. It also addresses our plans to ensure continuity of academic services for students, along with supporting their healthy social, emotional, and mental health needs. The full plan can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.cguhsd.org/SuperintendentOffice.aspx>

Per Arizona Governor Ducey, school district governing boards cannot require a student or teacher to receive a vaccine for COVID-19 or to wear a face covering to participate in in-person instruction. Also, students, staff, and visitors to the high schools have the option of whether to wear a mask for additional personal safety. Currently, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) recommend that masks be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older), whether fully vaccinated or not.

The district will continue to modify school facilities to allow for physical distancing indoors a minimum of three feet (or further, where space allows) per the recommendation of the CDC. Both school locations will be implementing two lunch periods with staggered passing times and increased dining options (both indoors and outdoors) to allow for social distancing of students. School staff will be supporting proper respiratory and handwashing etiquette to maximize disease prevention efforts. Our increased cleaning and sanitizing protocols will continue to promote the maintenance of a healthy school environment. While we continue to take the necessary steps to improve the health and safety of our staff and students, we cannot do it alone. It is extremely important for parents to ensure that students stay home when they do not feel well.

On behalf of the CGUHSD, I welcome you back for a new school year and look forward to seeing you around our school campuses soon.

Sincerely,

Dr. Anna Battle
CGUHSD Superintendent

