

Hello Countryside Coyotes!

As you may have heard, Dysart Unified School District has revised the reopening plan for students to return to in person learning. Since the beginning of the school year, a phased-in approach has been taken for both staff and students. We currently have all staff members, Learning Lab and preschool students on campus each day. Using data, our district leaders have determined we are ready for more student groups to return to in person learning.

We are excited for our students to return to campus! There will be many changes to how we conduct business on an everyday basis so we can provide a safe environment for all. We ask that all of our community members abide by these guidelines to build trust in each other during this transition time.

Updated Timeline:

- September 14: Students in grades K-4 return to in person learning; 5-8 grade Learning Lab students will remain on campus in homeroom classes
- September 21: All Students in grades 5-8 return to in-person learning; Learning Labs are closed

Health and Safety Routines and Processes:

- All students will receive 2 temperature checks daily with a touchless thermometer. Students may have temps take on their wrists or foreheads..
- To reduce office visits no forgotten homework, projects, instruments, etc. will be dropped off in the office during the day. Students may bring them to school the following day without penalty.
- We are asking that students pack a lunch or get a free lunch(through December 31st) to limit lunch delivery visitors in the office.
- There will be a K-8 soft start; students will go directly into their classrooms or to the cafeteria for breakfast. (Breakfast is free through December 31st). There is a second recess built into the K-5 master schedule, and teachers will be responsive to students' need for a break.
- Classroom supplies will not be shared; students will have individual supplies (teachers will send this information in a separate email).
- Masks are required per Maricopa County guidelines. Please contact Mrs. Hessler if your student has medical needs for an alternative.
- Hand washing will occur a minimum every 2 hours.
- Students must wash/sanitize hands before lunch and after recess.
- No visitors will be allowed to eat lunch with students.
- No volunteers/visitors will be allowed on campus at this time.
- COVID-19 Safety Guidelines will be followed.

Morning Drop Off:

- Doors open at 8:45am
- Parents, please follow drop off procedures in the morning. Do not allow your student to exit your car until you have pulled up past the crosswalk and as far forward as you can. Please follow your friendly admin directions in the morning during drop off.

Afternoon Pick Up:

***Please note, students will always be supervised by teachers; communicate to your child's homeroom teacher if your child needs to wait for an older sibling. Staggered release times are scheduled to reduce hallway congestion.*

- Staggered Release Times

- 3:35 pm

- Preschool- Exit through Playground doors- parent pick up/busses via Bus Loop Gate.
 - Kindergarten (exit outside classroom door and proceed through kindergarten gate-parent pick up will move to the front of the school. Bus riders/walkers gate will proceed to the bus loop.
 - 1st grade (exit classroom, go to main hallway-walkers and bus riders exit as normal through west doors. Parent pick up students exit through east door
 - 4th grade- exit through back doors and walk to bus/parent pick up from back of school.

- 3:40pm

- PBS (exit classroom and exit through normal route-K Hallway to far K gate by bus loop
 - 3rd grade- follow the 1st grade route
 - 2nd grade-follow the 4th grade route.
 - 5th grade- exit to back staircase- use PBS doors- walk to bus/parent pick up from back of school
 - 6th grade- exit front staircase- main hall- split to parent pick up/bus riders

- 3:45pm-All 7th and 8th graders will be released via a split hallway/staircase release.

Lunchtime/Recess:

- Each grade level is scheduled to eat lunch in the cafeteria separated into A and B grade levels on opposite ends of the cafeteria with a staggered lunch line schedule
- Students will be social distanced as much as possible - limited to 3 students per bench.
- Tables will be sanitized between each grade level lunch period.
- Students will use ID cards provide their name/student ID so that keypads are not used.
From now until December 31st-all breakfasts and lunches are free for students under 18 years of age.
- Floor markings will support social distancing.
- Students must wash/sanitize their hands before lunch and after recess.
- Each grade level is scheduled to go to recess separated by A/B sides of the playground with no access to playground structures at this time.
- Students are allowed to remove masks while at lunch and recess. Once they are finished, masks are to be put back on.

- Students may take off their masks while playing outside; students will be encouraged to maintain social distancing while playing.

Schooling Options:

- Due to the in person learning timeline change, Countryside families will have from September 2nd - September 10th to change (*in person to iSchool OR iSchool to in person*) without counting as a student's "semester switch".
- Please email Kelly Bailey (kelly.bailey@dysart.org) and your child's homeroom teacher, if you would like to change your schooling option.
- After September 10th - All requests to change schooling options will be recorded as the "semester switch".
- iSchool students will work independently at their own pace, teachers will no longer be able to teach on camera, but will be available to provide assistance to students. It is vital that iSchool students complete all components of each module.

Teacher Communication:

- Teachers will continue to email families on a weekly basis
 - Updated schedules
 - Special area class information
 - Curriculum updates
 - Special announcements

Extremely Important Information Needed

Please let us know how your student will be getting home and arriving. Bus, Den Club, Walking/Biking or Parent Pickup. We need this information by Wednesday, September 10th. Please communicate with your child's homeroom teacher.

Please also make sure all your information in Infinite Campus is up to date including signing all necessary paperwork for starting school and updating contact information. To complete the Annual Update, including the COVID-19 waiver, please follow these steps:

Please perform your Annual Student Update today in 3 easy steps:

1. **Log into your Parent Portal account at www.dysart.org/parentportal**
2. **Click on "Annual Student Update"**
3. **Click on the "Register New/Update Existing Information" button to begin**

Supplies

Please note that students will need several key things everyday in class. Their chromebook, charger, headphones are required daily. Chromebooks and chargers may be kept at school and can be used to charge devices overnight. Students will not be able to share supplies this year. Teachers will be sending home supply lists next week. Also, we will have water bottle filling stations installed soon. Please

send your child with a water bottle each day as drinking straight from water fountains will not be permitted.

iSCHOOL Student Update

If your student is enrolled in iSchool, we realize that they are not returning to in-person learning at this time. Next week our teacher's schedules will be a bit different as we prepare for in person students. There will be no live virtual instruction after 1:00 on Tuesday, all day on both September 10th and 11th. Office hours will only be held on Wednesday this week.

For K-4 iSCHOOL students, your teacher's office hours and virtual support will be changing on September 14th. For 5-8 iSCHOOL students, your teacher's office hours and level of virtual support will also change. Your child's homeroom teachers will be sending out updated schedules for iSCHOOL office hours next week.

Please note that during the regular in-person school day, your teacher will not be immediately available for chat or emails as they are instructing students in their classes.

Schedule for next Week

This upcoming week is a very unique week. Monday is Labor Day and there is no school as it is a federal holiday. On Tuesday, we will be meeting as a class in the AM and will conclude virtual classes at 1pm. Students will then have time to complete work assigned to them while all staff attend a safety training. Wednesday will be a regular schedule. Thursday and Friday students will login in the morning to get their work assignments for the day, and then they will have time to complete work on their own schedule the remainder of the day while staff attends training for the return to school in person.

Coyote families, I realize that this is a long communication. I wanted to get as much information to you as possible so that you have an entire week (K-4) or two weeks (5-8) to prepare for this next transition. On behalf of the entire staff at Countryside, we are so excited to have our In-Person First Days of School with each and every one of you!

Respectfully (and excitedly!),

Mrs. Hessler, Principal