



**3500 Douglas Avenue
Mojave, CA 93501**

Voice: 661-824-4001
Fax: 661-824-2686

July 21, 2020

Dear Students, Parents/Guardians, Staff and Community Members:

The entire Mojave Unified School District community, including parents, teachers, support staff, and students, has been affected by COVID-19. Thank you for your patience and empathy while we navigate this rapidly changing situation. As our community continues to protect itself from COVID-19, we would like to update you on our planning efforts for the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

On Tuesday, June 23, 2020, we held our regularly scheduled School Board Meeting and presented the recommendation made by the District Task Force for Reopening.

Our task force worked to develop the proposal keeping in mind the following:

- Current public health trends, guidance from state and local agencies, and our commitment to keeping all of our students, staff and families safe and healthy
- The need for students to get the most effective and meaningful instruction possible
- The best place for students to learn is in class
- The guidelines given by key agencies for transporting students and cleaning all areas of a facility
- Availability of personal protective equipment for both students and staff
- Feedback received through parent surveys
- Specific needs of the members of our communities
- The first day of school will be August 6, 2020.

Out of the utmost concern for the health, safety, and wellbeing of our students, staff, and community, it was recommended that all students start the school year **in full online distance learning** and when the conditions are appropriate for the return to in-person instruction, MUSD will bring students back to school sites using a phased-in approach. This recommendation was approved by the School Board.

We are greatly appreciative of the MUSD District Task Force members, community survey responses, and stakeholders that helped inform the development of this proposal. Thank you again to the many members of our community including parents, teachers, staff, students, and employee association partners for your collaboration during this challenging time.

Distance Learning

Having learned from and reflected on our distance learning experience in the spring, we are developing a more robust and enriching experience for the fall that will be conducted online through Google classroom. This will require regular attendance and a return to standard grading practices. Every child will receive a computer, and internet hot spots will be available for families to check out and use at home. As we work in partnership with our staff, we will provide more details for the fall in the coming weeks.

Once again, the Mojave Unified School District School Board and I would like to thank all of the parents, teachers, support staff, and district administration for their collaboration throughout this challenging time. We acknowledge that school is not going to be the same this year, and that these changes will have an impact on each family and staff member. We are committed to making this academic year the best that it can be with your help and continued understanding. We look forward to a time when this health crisis is behind us and we can resume in-school learning.

We will continue to keep families and staff informed during our planning process and as school begins. Thank you for your support and please stay safe and well.

With gratitude,

Katherine Aguirre

Katherine Aguirre, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Mojave Unified School District