

July 6, 2020

Dear Union Colony family,

This past weekend my wife and I celebrated our nation's birthday. We enjoyed visiting with family and the Greeley Stampede Fireworks Show. As a nation we collectively **celebrate** our **independence**, but as individuals we may have different perspectives of independence. Some of our families are new to America and may be celebrating independence in the United States for the first time. Others may be simultaneously celebrating independence from addiction, or independence from an abusive situation, or being able to stand on one's own feet and not be dependent on others.

The unrest in our nation saddens me. However, **I've always been proud to be a Timberwolf**, and sometimes circumstances amplify that fact. Our Union Colony population represents 13+ languages, I don't know how many nationalities, and every shade of skin color. UC is a charter school, a school of choice, and we're chosen because we are **inclusive of all**. At Union Colony every student, no matter what they look like, or what their background is, is met with the same high expectations.

Additionally, Union Colony **values** its variety of **partnerships**. Our relationships with the **Greeley and Evans police departments** and **North Range Behavioral Health** will continue to be invaluable. We also partner with the **High Plains Library District** to ensure equal access to dynamic text and media for all students. The **Immigrant and Refugee Center** and the **Weld County Food Bank** provide valuable support for our families as well.

**Union Colony is fully committed to in-person learning for the 2020-2021 school year** and we will be ready if distance learning is required. We'll be submitting a re-entry plan to the district by the end of the week. Once approved we'll share with you, but please keep in mind it is fluid and will most likely look different when students come back August 13. Oh my, that seems soon all the sudden! [Click here to see the 2020-2021 calendar.](#)

Whether we are learning together in-person, or distantly, **all 3-12 graders will have a chromebook as part of their school supplies**. We are using some of the federal COVID relief funds for this purpose, and next/each year 3rd and 8th graders will get new chromebooks to keep up the rotation through graduation.

We still have not received an asbestos removal permit from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for the old high school building. We're not waiting any longer. **We're moving forward with the best campus possible with the old building still standing.** ([Click here to see the updated site plan.](#)) The parking lots will be resurfaced and striped, an outdoor classroom/picnic area has been added, and kids will enjoy a blacktop/basketball court and grass where there was dirt a year ago.

Who knows what 2020/2021 will bring, but I do know that whatever it is, Timberwolves will stand strong. **United we stand.**

Wolfpack strong,  
Jim Anderson  
Director