

# MINGUS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #4

1801 East Fir Street • Cottonwood, AZ • 86326 • 928.634.8901

*Den of the Marauders*

September 11, 2020

To: Verde Valley Families, Schools & Media

From: Mingus Union High School Superintendent Mike Westcott

For Immediate Release:

Last evening the Mingus Union High School District Governing Board reviewed Arizona Department of Health Services guidance for safely returning to in-person learning and the associated health benchmarks and data dashboard.

Safe Return to In-Person Learning: <https://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/novel-coronavirus/covid-19-safely-return-to-in-person-instruction.pdf>

ADHS Data Dashboard for Schools: <https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-schools>

Yavapai County health benchmarks have continued a positive trend with only the cases per 100,000 metric remaining in the “moderate” spread category. At this time, a hybrid learning model is indicated which allows both on-and-off site learning opportunities.

The Governing Board approved a plan to offer students the choice of in-person or continued at-home learning through the Edgenuity learning platform to begin on Thursday, September 17, 2020.

Details of this plan will be released to families and posted on our school website by Monday, September 14. This plan will include a waiver form to be completed by all families who choose to send their students to campus and the required use of face coverings as authorized by Executive Order 2020-51. The district will be implementing COVID-19 mitigation strategies as recommended by ADHS in their guidance for hybrid learning, to include increased cleaning and sanitizing measures and physical distancing to the greatest extent possible.

MUHS Mitigation Plan: [https://tb2cdn.schoolwebmasters.com/acnt\\_241806/site\\_241807/Documents/Mitigation-Plan.pdf](https://tb2cdn.schoolwebmasters.com/acnt_241806/site_241807/Documents/Mitigation-Plan.pdf)

As you know, we have a large student body and a single campus, so we will make a concerted effort to stagger student attendance in such a way as to limit the total number of student on campus simultaneously.

School bus routes will be posted to our website and breakfast and lunch will be provided for all students who choose to participate in onsite learning or those students who come to our campus for grab-and-go meals.

Families who consider sending their students to campus must commit to health screening and the monitoring of their student’s health at home. The first line of defense against COVID-19 transmission is the screening of students before they come to campus, including daily temperature checks and a commitment to stay at home if ill. The District will adhere to our posted protocol regarding students and staff members who become sick while on campus.

PLEASE NOTE: Traditional teacher-led instruction DOES NOT begin on September 17. Our current use of the Edgenuity learning platform will continue until at least October 8, when the Governing Board again reviews our progress relative to the ADHS health benchmarks.

The MUHS administration sincerely appreciates the comments and input of our family members and wants to stress our commitment to moving forward with the best interests of all our stakeholders in mind.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office at (928) 634-8640.

Sincerely,



Mike Westcott, Superintendent