



# Ganado Unified School District No. 20

Post Office Box 1757 • Ganado, Arizona 86505

Telephone: 928.755.1000 • Fax: 928.755.1012

District Website: [www.ganado.k12.az.us](http://www.ganado.k12.az.us)

Friday, April 16, 2021

RE: ONSITE LEARNING

Dear Educators, Parents, and Stakeholders:

Please find attached, a letter from the Navajo Nation President in regards to Ganado Unified School District's onsite waiver from the state. The State of Arizona has granted an onsite waiver through May 3rd, 2021, meaning until that time, the district should not have students on campus. President Nez has clearly stated we stay entirely online for the remainder of the academic year. Therefore, Ganado Unified School District will not be offering onsite services for the rest of the year and will be delivering instruction entirely online. However, the topic of summer school delivery (online or in-person) will be addressed as we get closer to that time and is dependent on any executive orders from the Navajo Nation President.

Regards,

Betsy Dobias, Interim Superintendent  
Ganado Unified School District

Post Office Box 1757, Hwy. 264, Ganado, Arizona 86505

Main District 928-755-4000 • Administration 928-755-1010 • Business Office 928-755-1040

Elementary School South 928-755-1200 • Elementary School North 928-755-1300

Middle School 928-755-1400 • High School 928-755-1500

*"Our Mission is to Ensure All Students a Quality Education and Strengthen Diné Cultural Values for Life-long Learning"*  
*"Our Vision is to be a Professional Learning Community that Focuses on All Students Exceeding Educational Expectations"*



## Arizona Department of Education

April 14, 2021

Dear Superintendent Dobias:

### RE: Waiver Submission

On July 23, 2020, Governor Ducey issued Executive Order 2020-51 **Arizona Open for Learning**.

As part of the Executive Order, a school district or charter school may apply to the Arizona Department of Education for a waiver of the requirement under Executive Order 2020-41 to provide free on-site learning and support services for children in need if a county health department, in conjunction with the Arizona Department of Health Services, advises closing an entire school district or charter school due to an outbreak of the virus, or a tribal sovereign nation issues a "stay-at-home" order impacting a school district or charter school on or adjacent to a reservation.

Based on our review, your waiver is being requested due to a:

- Tribal sovereign nation "stay-at-home" order

Your request is **approved** as it includes all the applicable required documentation from the local health department and Arizona Department of Health Services and/or the tribal sovereign nation "stay-at-home" order.

As of, **4/14/21**, Ganado Unified School District will be closed for onsite support services.

As of, **5/3/21**, Ganado Unified School District will resume onsite support services unless a waiver extension has been granted. LEAs may apply for a waiver extension via the [ADE website](#).

**If, prior to the expiration of the current waiver, your school district or charter no longer meets either of the minimum requirements listed above, the waiver expires automatically. ADE has no authority to authorize a waiver beyond the timeframe during which those minimum requirements of the Executive Order are met.**

If you have any questions, please contact:

Kate Wright, Chief of Staff ([kate.wright@azed.gov](mailto:kate.wright@azed.gov))

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kate Wright".

Kate Wright  
Chief of Staff

**Kathy Hoffman, Superintendent of Public Instruction**

1535 West Jefferson Street • Phoenix, Arizona 85007 • (602) 542-5460 • [www.azed.gov](http://www.azed.gov)

# THE NAVAJO NATION

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JONATHAN NEZ | **PRESIDENT**

MYRON LIZER | **VICE PRESIDENT**



April 14, 2021

Dear School Leader and Governing School Board President,

Public Health Emergency Order 2021-008 reinstates a shelter-in-place order given the new variants of COVID-19 identified on the Navajo Nation. This Order is indefinite. The Nation continues to remain in a Major Disaster Declaration for the COVID-19 pandemic.

As has been widely reported, the Navajo Nation has been severely impacted by COVID-19. The most recent Navajo Nation situation report records over 30,269 infections and over 1,262 deaths. We continue to watch COVID-19 cases closely, particularly now that the Navajo Nation has documented cases of the highly contagious S UK and California variants. The Nation is seeing early indications of a worrisome trend and our public health experts are trying to prevent a third surge of COVID-19 on the Navajo Nation. Due to this increase in cases, the Nation is returning to a stay-at-home directive.

In the last few weeks, COVID-19 outbreaks are on the rise at schools within the Navajo Nation. These outbreaks and infections are preventable and manageable when schools provide virtual and on-line learning only.

The Nation is adamant that you respect the sovereignty of the Navajo Nation and our decision to protect the health and welfare of Navajo Nation citizens, abide by Public Health Emergency Order 2021-008, and provide virtual and on-line learning only. Ahéheé’.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Jonathan Nez in black ink.

Jonathan Nez, *President*  
**THE NAVAJO NATION**

Handwritten signature of Myron Lizer in black ink.

Myron Lizer, *Vice President*  
**THE NAVAJO NATION**

cc: OPVP File