



SAND SPRINGS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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November 11, 2020

Dear Sandite Families,

We have had an incredibly successful ten weeks of school this year. I am proud of our staff and students who, during the COVID-19 pandemic, continue to give their very best effort in the teaching and learning process, and we have made some tremendous gains. With tenacious determination, we continue to deliver quality instruction to all students.

For those of you who are following our district's data on positive COVID-19 cases and quarantines, you are keenly aware of the rising numbers in our district. Last week we saw a significant increase. This week those numbers have continued to increase to a level in which our staff and students' health and safety must be protected to the greatest extent possible. The ability to adequately staff our classrooms has become a challenge as well. As such, **we are making the difficult decision to shift to our Distance Learning Model for our secondary students in grades 6 through 12 beginning Thursday, November 12, returning to in-person instruction on Monday, November 30**, immediately following Thanksgiving Break. This decision was made through much deliberation with our Leadership Team. We feel this is the right decision, giving our students and staff the time to distance themselves from others while continuing the education process. **PreK and Elementary sites will remain open and continue in-person instruction. Page Academy and our Virtual Academy will be open and continue regular operation.**

Please be reminded that students in the Distance Learning Model are expected to complete their assignments while at home. Unlike last spring, assigned work that is not completed may affect student grades.

Transportation for the elementary students will continue as usual, and the district will provide transportation for secondary students who attend Tulsa Technology Programs. The school breakfast and lunch program will continue at both CPHS and CBMS. More information from our Child Nutrition Department will be provided soon regarding how to access these meals.

While we understand this learning model is not optimal for all students, we are committed to giving our best effort to make sure we continue to meet students' needs. Secondary teachers will be working from their classrooms during the DLM period and will provide instruction and support to students.

Thank you for your understanding during this unprecedented time.

Sincerely,

Sherry Durkee, Superintendent