



DOUGLAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #27

Administrative Offices ~ 1132 12th Street

Douglas, Arizona 85607

(520) 364-2447 ~ Fax: (520) 224-2470

<https://www.dusd.us>

Ana C. Samaniego

Superintendent

Cesar Soto

Chief Financial & Operations Officer

Denise Cox

Assistant Superintendent

July 23, 2021

Dear DUSD Families:

As Superintendent of Douglas Unified Schools, it is my pleasure to welcome all of our students back for one great year! Wishing you all the very best as we come near the end of summer break and hope that everyone has had a fun and healthy break. We invite and encourage all of our students to come back energized and ready to get "Back to the Future!"

All of our DUSD schools will be open for in-person instruction in the traditional setting on Thursday, August 5, 2021. We have been working on our return to school plans and preparing our school buildings to welcome back all of our students to a safe learning environment. We are excited to have all of our Douglas students back in schools where they belong.

There are so many advantages to going to school and every child needs that opportunity. Schools are an important part of the infrastructure of our communities. They provide an environment where children can learn a lot of basic skills, gain an abundance of knowledge and information, develop their talents, learn from experts, and meet friends. School is much more fun if children have their friends around to share their interests and laughter.

DUSD also thanks and appreciates all of our teachers, support staff, school professionals, instructional leaders, our entire school community, parents/families, and local health clinics for all their support and collaboration as we faced many challenges during the pandemic.

A reminder that as we plan for our return to school, Arizona Legislature has recently passed a new ordinance regarding face mask at schools. The Arizona Revised Statute §15-342 states the following:

A. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW ORDER, A COUNTY, CITY, TOWN, SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD, OR CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY MAY NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF FACE COVERINGS BY STUDENTS OR STAFF DURING SCHOOL HOURS AND ON SCHOOL PROPERTY.

B. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY NOT REQUIRE A STUDENT OR TEACHER TO RECEIVE A VACCINE FOR COVID-19 OR TO WEAR A FACE-COVERING TO PARTICIPATE IN IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION

Our students and staff *may* wear a mask if desired. CDC guidelines and Cochise County Health Department *advice* that individuals who are not vaccinated continue to wear a mask. However, masks will be optional at DUSD.

We still encourage our families to screen your children for any possible COVID-19 symptoms prior to coming to school. We encourage all to review the health and safety guidelines for daily screenings.

Once again, we are excited to welcome students back to our schools. Let's not get back to normal, let's get back to doing things better! For more information, please visit your child's school website and social media. We appreciate all of your support.

Sincerely,

Ana C. Samaniego

Superintendent

Working together, raising standards, and developing leaders.

The Douglas Unified School District #27 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion or disability.
El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Douglas #27 no discrimina sobre la base de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, edad, religión o discapacidad.