



Globe Unified School District No. 1

460 N. Willow St. Globe, AZ 85501

Jacque Cline-Sanders
Board President

Jerry Jennex
Superintendent

Christa DalMolin-East
Deputy Superintendent/HR

Trent Lyon
Dir. of Business Operations.

March 12, 2020

GUSD Staff and Families,

As you are probably aware, there is nationwide concern regarding COVID-19 (the coronavirus). We have been tracking new developments for the coronavirus including recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS). As of today, there are no known local diagnosis; however, there is reason to believe that the coronavirus could spread to Arizona and our community as it is being called a nationwide pandemic.

The safety and well-being of our students and staff is our top priority. Current data shows that only 3% of the diagnosed cases of coronavirus have been found in children under the age of 20. The State Superintendent of Public Education, Kathy Hoffman, has asked Arizona schools to be cautious when making school closure decisions and has encouraged schools to remain open for the time being. We will continue to closely monitor any local and statewide trends in diagnosis and work to make cautious, well-thought out and timely decisions regarding any possible closure of GUSD.

We have begun to take necessary precautions and have put plans in place should our community be affected by this virus. I would like to take a moment to outline the changes/plans:

- All schools have been supplied with additional disinfecting wipes, cleaners and hand sanitizers for use by all teachers, staff and students.
- Classrooms, bathrooms and other common areas will be disinfected multiple times a day by custodial staff with an extra focus on thoroughly disinfecting with appropriate cleaners.
- There is a plan in place for school closure. Staff, parents and families will be notified via school messenger systems as well as via our website and Facebook pages should a closure happen. We are considering safe ways to continue school with on-line instruction should the closure be indefinite.
- Staff and students are encouraged to stay home should they not feel well and/or have any of the symptoms of the coronavirus which include: headache, fever, dry cough, difficulty breathing/shortness of breath or extreme fatigue.
- Staff and students are asked to engage in the effective habits of frequent hand-washing, covering every cough and sneeze and staying home if sick.
- Finally, staff and students will be encouraged to refrain from shaking hands. We will remain committed to greeting each other and students and can use alternatives to the hand shake such as the wave, the air 5 or a smile.

We will continue to be diligent and cautious as we would with any virus or other potential contagious disease. I want to encourage you to not allow the fear of this virus to make you less kind or less compassionate towards others or any less dedicated to educating our students. We may not be shaking hands but we can still share a smile or a kind word with each other as we work towards our vision of "Capturing Hearts, Empowering Minds."

Sincerely,

Jerry Jennex, Superintendent

Capturing Hearts, Empowering Minds

Globe Unified School District will use its resources to emphasize academic achievement, promote lifelong learning and encourage community and global service.