

Dear Cozad Elementary Parents,

It is such a great moment writing to you today to tell you how much the staff and I have missed your children and how much we look forward to the start of school on August 19, 2020. Included in this letter will be a general list of the protocols we are following to keep your student and our staff safe as we journey through the COVID19 pandemic. In addition, there will be a note telling you of your child's grade level and homeroom teacher for the 2020-21 academic year. If your child is not going to attend school in Cozad, please call the school and let us know of changes in attendance.

Please know that we have made every effort to provide you accurate and up-to-date information, however changes in information we receive force us to change our plans, sometimes with very little notice. We will update our procedures as the situation warrants. Some protocols may seem to contradict other guidelines. Most of this is due to differing sources of information we adhere to. In the end we are trying to err on the side of caution.

Cancellations: We have cancelled Open House and Grandparent's Day. Both of these cancellations are due to the COVID19 virus situation.

First Day of School--- Our first day of school for students is Wednesday, August 19th. A boxed breakfast will be served! Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. and classes will start at 8:00 a.m. In addition, parents that wish to bring their student into the school (on this morning only) will be welcome to do so. We ask that you please wear a mask. This will be one of the "contradicting" situations mentioned earlier. I fear you will see many people without masks. Please do your part to keep everyone safe and wear one anyway!! We are asking that parents do not bring their child into the building after the first day of school.

Parents that need to meet with a staff member will need to call the school and make an appointment.

All COVID updates will be posted on the district web site, you should click on "COVID Updates" to access district information.

AfterZone will not be in session until Tuesday, September 8, 2020. Changes that may occur regarding AfterZone will be posted on the "Covid Updates" link on our district web site.

Protocols at school:

- + Only two elementary doors will be open in the mornings for students to enter the building. These two doors will be the south main doors and the east door (#E-19) near Mrs. Woldt's classroom. Please consider this when dropping off students.
- + All students will have their temperature checked upon entering and provided hand sanitizer to clean hands. Students with a fever will be isolated, checked again in 5-15 minutes and sent home if they continue to exhibit

- a fever. Students with temperatures of 100° F or over will be sent home.
- + PLEASE, do not send your student to school if they do not feel well or exhibit a temperature at home before the school day starts.
 - + Breakfast and lunch will be a boxed option only for the start of the school year. We will eat in various places in school to accommodate social distancing.
 - + Students will be able to enter the elementary from two doors only. These will be the main south doors and the east door (#E-19) near Mrs. Woldt's classroom.
 - + Students leaving for appointments, or lunch during the school day must check in at the office upon returning to school. We will again check their temperature in the office.
 - + At this time, students are encouraged to wear masks at school, however this is not required. If your student is at-risk, or has an underlying health condition, please let us know and we will help your student to wear a mask at school.
 - + If you need to meet with your child's teacher or other school personnel, please call the school and make an appointment.
 - + The school facility will receive more frequent cleaning, including classrooms, bathrooms and the cafeteria.
 - + Water fountains will not be turned on at school. We are asking that students bring a water bottle to school to use during the day. If students need a water bottle, the school will provide one.
 - + Students will be taught and encouraged to social distance. We will try to prevent/minimize contact between students of different grade levels. Contact within grade levels will be minimized when possible.
 - + Classrooms will be self-contained. Reading and math groups will take place in each students' homeroom.
 - + 4th and 5th grades departmentalize and will have teachers moving to other classrooms to teach specific subject areas, rather than asking students to move.