



Holmes, Donna <dholmes@palisadesd.org>

Community Message August 10, 2020

1 message

Dr. Bridget O'Connell <superintendent@palisadesd.org>

Mon, Aug 10, 2020 at 7:29 PM

Reply-To: dholmes@palisadesd.org

To: dholmes@palisadesd.org

Dear Palisades Community,

As we prepare for the return of our students to school on August 31st, I wanted to reach out to all of you for several reasons. First to thank you for your support and assistance with the comments and suggestions we have received regarding our Health and Safety Plan (Board approved on July 22nd). Second, to thank you for the quick response to our pre-registration sent out for families to choose whether your student(s) will return face to face or online, and whether or not transportation is needed for the first half of the school year. Also, to provide you with some information that will be helpful prior to beginning the school year on August 31st (please see attached below my signature).

Over the past two weeks our team has been working on the arduous task of finalizing staffing needs based on the pre-registration responses to offer families both a full face to face program and a full online program. This process included adjusting both teachers' and students' schedules as well as monitoring face to face class enrollments to maximize social distancing between students. To support online learning, the district has purchased cameras with embedded microphones and tripods that will connect with teacher laptops as well as a high resolution video conferencing platform.

In addition to preparing our buildings for the school year as we would do in a typical year, we have also purchased and installed items specific to the health and safety plan including: water bottle filling stations, cases of sanitizing wipes, additional hand sanitizing stations and refill bottles, gloves and masks, tray tables for eating in classrooms if necessary, and signage to remind students to remain socially distant, wash their hands and wear a mask when needed.

As a community, you have done a remarkable job of keeping the incidence rate of COVID cases low. This has been accomplished through your continued commitment to practicing recommended safety measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, knowing and monitoring your symptoms, and seeking medical advice when symptoms emerge. Our students, faculty and staff are as safe as the community in which they operate, and over the past seven weeks our student athletes and marching band students have participated in pre-season activities without disruption. Your continued efforts to stay healthy and safe will be very beneficial as we reopen our schools and welcome students and staff for the upcoming school year.

Please see a list of other notable items that will be helpful to you as we begin the school year. I will be sending another community message on Friday, after this week's Education Programs and Services Meeting on Thursday (August 13th-call information in attachment) evening at 6:30PM.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bridget O'Connell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Bridget O'Connell

Superintendent

For more information about the upcoming school year, please click on this document - [Community Message 081220 Attachment.pdf](#)

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