



## SAHUARITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

September 11, 2020

Dear Sahuarita Family:

I'd like to provide you with an update regarding our return to school plan.

Our focus is to follow the metrics, and take slow, methodical, and steady steps forward. The latest update of the [State](#) and [County](#) dashboards continues to show the disease indicators in the yellow zone. This correlates with the hybrid phase.

As previously communicated, I would like to confirm the beginning of the in-person, hybrid phase of our Road Back plan. **The first day of in-person learning for K-5th grade will be on September 17, 2020.** This date will specifically correspond with the "B" group of the hybrid plan. The "A" group of the K-5 hybrid plan will attend their first day of in-person learning on Monday, September 21, 2020. Just to reiterate, the secondary grades, 6th-12th, will remain on full remote learning for the present time. It is hoped to give further communication about those grade levels and schools before the Fall Break. Of course, our Sahuarita Digital Pathways Academy (SDPA) will continue in its fully online model.

If you've not already done so, please review the [Road Back page](#) of the Sahuarita USD website, with specific attention to your child's specific [school action plan](#). There is also much detailed information about all aspects of the Road Back plan, including the mitigation plan, instructional programs, food services, transportation services, and general procedures and routines.

I have had multiple conversations with the Pima County Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Francisco Garcia. He and his team have been invaluable resources, wise counsel, and supportive of our efforts.

We have continued to walk the slow and steady journey back to traditional instruction. I understand the natural uncertainty, and perhaps anxiety, associated with it. I share those feelings, too. However, I want to assure you that our entire team has been working tirelessly, thoughtfully, and collaboratively, to be as ready as we can to keep all of us safe and serve our educational mission.

Finally, this will take a total team effort. I want to thank our families in advance for your extra time, patience, and effort during these days. Thank you for taking a little extra time each day to intentionally check your children for wellness, take their temperature, support the mask norm, reinforce hand washing, and keep them home if they don't feel well. Through our individualized efforts, the collective team goals will be advanced, including the health, learning, and well being of all.

I am looking forward to seeing our wonderful students around campus real soon!

Sincerely,

Manuel O. Valenzuela, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

### Office of the Superintendent

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*Working as a team to help every student succeed.*