



**SAHUARITA** UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

April 19, 2021

Dear Sahuarita Family:

Today, Governor Ducey rescinded a section of Executive Order 2020-51, and Emergency Measure 2020-04, issued by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), requiring mask usage in schools.

The Governor's actions communicate the discretion of local boards and district leaders to implement practices, including mask usage, to mitigate against the spread of COVID 19. In SUSD, the Governing Board approved the Road Back Plan, including the use of masks as a part of the mitigation plan. The CDC's latest operational strategy from March 2021 also cites universal mask usage as part of its updated school strategy, especially given the reduction in distancing norms to 3 feet.

In support of keeping our schools safe and open, barring any other action, **the mask requirement will continue to be in place and enforced in all SUSD schools through the balance of the school year**, under the provisions of the Road Back Plan that have been in effect all year.

We will continue to monitor and adjust to this dynamic situation as we prepare for the launch of the 2021-22 school year in August 2021. Of course, we will communicate with clarity about any determinations for next year.

Thanks for your continued support, patience, and understanding as we work together to successfully finish the year with our schools safe, healthy, and fully open.

Sincerely,

Manuel O. Valenzuela, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

**Office of the Superintendent**

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