



Clarkdale-Jerome School District #3

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“Every Student, Every Day, Preparing for Tomorrow”

7/15/20

Dear CJSD Families,

I hope this email finds you well. Last week, we outlined our learning models and sent a link to a form for you to complete that gives us your intentions to participate on campus (In Person Learning) or to learn through our Clarkdale-Jerome Online Learning Academy. You also gave us your updated contact information, which is critically important during these times. We thank those for completing the form and hope that every family can do the same. The link to our form is here: <https://forms.gle/8xvCvnX86jSg9vjw8>

We are distributing student class lists to our teachers now. We will not be posting those lists this year, but your teacher will be sending you an introductory email within the next several days. That way you will have their contact information. We also want to verify your information (especially email addresses). They will also be distributing their supply lists as an attachment.

At our regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday night, our governing board approved a new start date to school, which will be **Monday, August 10th**. As stated earlier, the Governor has delayed the re-opening of school campuses until August 17th, therefore, we will begin our school year in our Distance Learning model. The reason for the delay with our first day of school is to allow teachers more time to get ready for distance learning, but also allow families to check out a Chromebook and to follow up with your teacher with any questions you might have related to our Distance Learning and our In Person Learning models. We know you will have a ton of questions and we want to be ready to answer them. Our goal is for you to be completely comfortable knowing all of the new protocols that we (and most other districts across the state) will be implementing as we enter the school year.

Our communication plan for parents/families will be distributed next week. This will give you detailed information related to our learning models and the new safety protocols we will implement once we return to campus. Last week's email described those models, which are:

In Person Learning model-On campus learning that will include specific health and safety protocols.

Distance Learning model-All student learning will be online.

Flexible Learning model-Clarkdale-Jerome Online Learning Academy for those students/families who are not comfortable returning to campus when we open up.

There have been some recent concerns that our online learning programs will not be of high quality. As you recall last spring during the initial outbreak, schools were directed to move to online learning in a short period of time. Teachers across the state did an amazing job, given the circumstances, of pulling together an online learning format for students. We know this was not something you, nor the teachers, were familiar with and it was a struggle for all.

Through our parent survey, feedback three elements were clear as we move forward with our online learning models: 1) increased rigor, 2) consistency, 3) more organizational structure. Taking this feedback, our online programs take on those elements. Our Online Transition work group has been working extremely hard over the last several weeks

creating a more robust platform. We will provide high quality teacher training on our Google platform prior to the start of school and we are confident that you will see a much better online experience as we enter the new school year.

Please know that we will be communicating more often as we prepare to open.

Stay safe and we will be in touch.

Danny Brown, M.Ed.
Superintendent