

## **Friday Update May 22, 2020**

Dear Sulphur Springs Families,

This is Dr. Catherine Kawaguchi, Superintendent, with your Friday Update, May 22, 2020.

I want to take a moment and thank our families, teachers, support staff, and Administrators for the amazing support and hard work that they are doing to assist our children with their learning, and for making sure that they are continuing to be our number one priority.

The District is working with parents and staff on forming Task Forces to assist with the preparation to re-open our schools in the fall. The first Task Force that met this week focused on looking at different instructional models to educate our students in an environment where health and safety are the top priority.

Please know, in this ever-changing environment, we are committed to planning and delivering high quality instruction to our students in the coming school year. Because it is not possible to predict what the current public health situation will be in August, the District is planning for three instructional models. With these models, we are confident that we will be in a position to provide your child with an excellent education regardless of what restrictions and orders are in place at the time.

The three models include: Full return, Blended (partial) Return, Virtual Classroom Instruction.

One of the three models, Full Return, Blended, or Virtual Classroom Instruction, will be implemented based on public health orders in place in August 2020.

The Full return model would be implemented if there are no more restrictions in place. This is effectively returning to school as normal.

Blended Return Model would be implemented if public health restricts the number of students that can be allowed on campus at one time. In this model students would learn at school for part of the week, and learn at home in our online platform the remainder of the week.

Virtual Classroom Instruction would be implemented if public health restricts students from returning physically to campuses. This model will involve students being actively engaged with their classroom teacher on a daily basis in a virtual setting.

Finally, regardless of the restrictions in place in August 2020, we want our families aware that we will have an option of Online Home Study Program. This option is for families that choose to keep their children at home, even if restrictions are lifted. This option would provide each family access to a credentialed teacher who would be available for support each school day, meet with parents and students weekly, guide parents in working with their student at home, oversee the academic progress of students, and coordinate with parents on each student's individual learning needs. With this option, students in this program will still have access to school library books and field trips on the school campus.

As we continue to plan for the start of the 2020-21 school year, please know with these models in place, we are confident your children's educational needs will be met so they can continue to thrive.

In order for the District to receive important information from our families, a survey asking for feedback on the models is being sent out, and we are asking if you can complete it by Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. Families can access the survey by clicking on the link in their email and/or going to the District website. Again, thank you for taking the time to take this short survey. Your input is greatly appreciated as we prepare to physically re-open our schools in the fall.

I will continue to keep you updated regarding the Task Forces and restrictions on schools from Department of Public Health. Thank you again for your partnership and commitment to our amazing students. Wishing you a wonderful weekend.