



Uinta County School District No. Four

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www.uinta4.com

May 13, 2020

Hello,

Governor Gordon recently released his latest state-wide orders regarding COVID-19 that will be in effect beginning May 15, 2020. These new orders do provide for a greater opening of businesses and communities. They also allow schools to "provide limited on-site instruction to students who need specialized assistance or services, or for technical courses that require specific equipment for instruction." However, they do not allow for schools to fully re-open. Therefore, the schools in Uinta 4 will remain closed and we will continue to follow our state approved remote learning plan for the remainder of the school year which ends May 29, 2020. We will be implementing plans to provide limited on-site instruction to students who need specialized assistance or services.

Building principals will be communicating a plan soon to all parents and students that will describe a means for each child to retrieve any personal belongings they still have in the school buildings. This plan will also describe a means for students to return any items that belong to the school such as library books, Chromebooks, etc. The safety of students, parents and staff members will be our highest priority as we develop these plans with consideration for proper social distancing, disinfecting and groups sizes. If any parents/students would prefer not to participate in this process, other arrangements will be made on an individual basis through your building principal. Participation is completely voluntary and not required.

Our focus and energy now moves to determining what school will look like this summer and next fall. For this purpose, the school district has formed the Uinta 4 COVID-19 Transition and Re-Opening Committee. The focus of this committee is to create, thoroughly communicate, and effectively implement a COVID -19 Transition and Re-Opening Plan that (1) prioritizes the safety and well-being of students, staff members and community members; (2) allows students to continue to learn at the highest level possible in an equitable and seamless manner and (3) creates a system of preparedness and flexibility as we move forward in these unpredictable and challenging times. The committee is currently evaluating the possibilities and guidelines for summer school and summer activities. The committee is also considering many possible scenarios for school starting next fall. The fact that school might not be "business as usual" when we begin in August is part of this conversation. As we achieve more clarity in what restrictions will be in place, the committee will be better able to develop a realistic plan for school next fall. Updates as this plan is developed will be shared throughout the summer to parents, student and community members. We will continue to hope for the best, but prepare for the many challenges

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that will undoubtedly come our way. The teamwork and resiliency demonstrated by students, parents and staff members since March 23rd has been inspiring. Many thanks to everyone! We will continue to find success during the challenging times ahead by working together!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey M. Newton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "J" and "N".

Jeffrey M Newton, Superintendent

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