



JAMESTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

18299 FIFTH AVENUE

JAMESTOWN, CA 95327

Phone 209.984.5217 Fax 209.984.2069

Mrs. Contessa Pelfrey, Superintendent

Mr. David Croy, Principal

July 30, 2020

Dear Jamestown School District families,

First, I would like to thank you so much for your patience and understanding as we navigate this unprecedented time of the COVID-19 pandemic and how to return to school safely. As some of you may have seen coming by watching our county COVID-19 numbers and statistics, Tuolumne County has met the metrics and will be on the official state monitoring list very soon. Our COVID -19 numbers are increasing consistently with elevated levels of disease transmission, as are increased hospitalizations which are all factors in keeping us on that list for a while. Governor Newsom's recent mandate for California K-12 schools states that if a county is on the state monitoring list, then all county school districts, both public and private, will not be allowed to have any in person instruction and will need to begin the school year on distance learning. I have attached a joint statement by the Tuolumne County Public Health Officer and the County Superintendent of Schools.

In order to comply with state and local mandates and to prioritize the health and safety of students and staff, Jamestown School District will begin the 2020-2021 school year with Distance Learning. With this news, I know you have many questions as to what this will look like. We understand that our response to distance learning was reactive last March, as all of us were scrambling to make sense of what was happening in our world, and we needed to respond very quickly. Be assured that our administration and staff have been working diligently all summer on the development of a rigorous, structured Distance Learning Plan along with hours of teacher professional development and training on distance learning. These plans will be shared with you in great detail in the weeks to come. I have attached a summary of our plan for now, so you can begin to have an idea of the expectations of all involved.

We will be communicating to you in the next weeks as to how we will be distributing classroom textbooks and materials, as well as computer devices for those that need them. I appreciate all of you who had filled out the last survey, as it has been extremely helpful in our preparations.

I do want to acknowledge the real challenges that Distance Learning brings. I hear you about childcare challenges, technology challenges, juggling both working from home and assisting your children in their education from home. These are all very real. As a district and with our dedicated staff, we will do our very best to assist you in meeting your needs within the mandatory guidelines that are placed upon us. For your planning purposes, prepare for a timeline for distance learning to last through the first trimester. However, we will always be re-evaluating our ability to hold in-person instruction sooner based upon current state and local guidelines and the ability to safely bring back students and staff.

Mandatory packet pick-up is next week on Monday, August 3rd from 3:00-7:00 PM and Tuesday, August 4th from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM. In order to maintain social distancing and safety, please use the drive through and remain in your vehicle, and we will hand you your packets. Mandatory Arena Registration will also be a drive through process the following week on August 10th and 11th with time-periods based on your oldest child's last name. Please see the attached flyer.

If you have any questions, concerns, or need clarification of any kind, please do not hesitate to reach out to me either by phone 209-984-4058 ext. 3154 or by email cpelfrey@jespanthers.org.

In partnership,

Contessa Pelfrey