

# SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

July 10, 2020

Dear Sycamore Families,

I hope this letter finds your family well. The last few months have felt much like a rollercoaster... feeling every dip and drop as we have tried to navigate school closure and school reopening. With that said, the purpose of this letter is to share details regarding our Welcome Back / Open House, the options that parents have as we start the new year, general information regarding our virtual start, and our upcoming physical / traditional start projected for August 17.

I can imagine you have many questions surrounding our reopening. I would like to thank you in advance for your patience and grace as we navigate the reopening of school.

Governor Ducey has ordered that the earliest schools could reopen for in-person instruction is August 17, but schools could provide remote learning earlier. The Vail School District has announced that it will reopen all schools remotely beginning on August 10 and students may come back on campus for face to face instruction upon the conclusion of the executive order.

Information on what a remote start will look like is currently in development and specific plans will be shared with parents prior to August 10, 2020. Remote Learning lessons will be delivered through Schoology in the content areas of Math, Language Arts, Social Studies, and Science. Components will include 5 days a week of student engagement, a focus on mastery learning, and assignments that will be submitted by your child and graded by their teacher. Teachers will maintain communication and connection with their students through Remote Learning.

In the meantime, we are moving forward with a VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE which will be personalized by each teacher. Teachers will record a video message, introducing themselves, their classroom routines and procedures, a description of Remote Learning at their grade level, and what in-person instruction will look like when students are able to return to Sycamore.

I understand that this is not the ideal start to the school year or what we have hoped for but we are committed to our relationships, providing rigorous instruction, and maintaining communication with families in the process.

I encourage parents to contact me if you have any questions. Please see the attached procedures for when we do return to school in person and visit our website, [syc.vailschooldistrict.org](http://syc.vailschooldistrict.org), for updated information. Please understand that these procedures may change based upon new information. We are committed to supporting our families and student success.

Respectfully,

Ken Graff  
Principal  
[graaffk@vailschooldistrict.org](mailto:graaffk@vailschooldistrict.org)  
520-879-2504

In the Vail Schools We:

**Are Respectful and Trustworthy** › **Care about each other** › **Take Responsibility**

16701 S. Houghton Road • Corona de Tucson, AZ 85641 • (520) 879-2500 • (520) 879-2501

# SYCAMORE'S REOPENING PROCEDURES

## Classroom:

- Staff will wear face coverings.
- Students will wear face coverings. We will support students who may have difficulty with face coverings.
- Students will have individual seats, maintaining safe distance apart when feasible.
- Students will use personal supplies.
- Handwashing and hand sanitizing routines will be taught and encouraged throughout the day.
- Classrooms will be sanitized daily.
- Specialists will conduct classes in your child's classroom.
- Students are encouraged to bring a personal water bottle.

## Recess:

- The fields will be open for students to play.
- Students will be encouraged to maintain a safe distance.
- Recess equipment will be sanitized throughout the day.
- Playground structures will be closed first quarter while routines are established.
- Students will maintain safe distances when lining up to return to class.

Sycamore Families, we look forward to the time when we are able to safely reopen school. Below are procedures we plan to have in place to keep staff and students safe on campus. We accept that some procedures may not be perfect, but we will respond positively as we maintain a safe learning environment for our students. We also understand that adjustments may need to be made due to requirements from the State or County. Thank you for being our partner in your child's education!

## Campus Wide Precautions:

- Increased handwashing stations on campus and access to hand sanitizing stations in the classroom .
- Handwashing will be encouraged throughout the day.
- Staff will wear face coverings during instruction, transitions on campus and while interacting with the community.
- Classrooms and common areas will be thoroughly sanitized nightly.
- Restrooms and drinking fountains will be sanitized multiple times throughout the school day.

## Office and Campus Visitors & Volunteers:

- Volunteers are an important part of our culture.
- Visitors in the classroom will be limited during the first couple weeks of school.
- Volunteers can support teachers from home.
- Volunteers and visitors will wear masks while on campus and in the classroom.

## Breakfast and Lunch:

- Lunch tables will be set-up to maintain safe distance apart from each other.
- Only 2 classes at each grade level will be in the MPR. Remaining classes will eat under the shade structure (weather permitting) or in the classroom.
- Classes will alternate daily eating in the MPR.
- Tables will be sanitized between grade level lunches.

## Morning Drop Off & Afternoon Pick-up:

- Parents are encouraged wait for students at the front of the school with exception of Kindergarten.
- Students will go directly to their classrooms the first two days of school. Daily entering and exiting routines will be taught to students.
- Grade levels will rotate from going directly to their classroom or playground to reduce the number of students on the field at a given time.