



July 13, 2020

Dear Faculty and Staff:

I would like to provide you with an update on the school reopening plan. The School Reopening Task Force has been working the past few weeks on developing our approach to reopening schools based upon guidance provided by the State of California, along with feedback from our various stakeholders -including feedback from the parent survey.

The guidelines provided by the State of California concerning maintaining effective safety protocols, as well as directives around the expectations for in-person as well as distance student learning have essentially produced three possible general models for reopening (and many permutations, but these are the general models):

- *A/B Daily Hybrid*
  - Student body divided into two groups: A and B to ensure we maintain social distancing
  - Instruction: 2 days in-person, 3 days DL
  
- *A/B AM-PM Hybrid*
  - Student body divided into two groups: A and B to ensure we maintain social distancing
  - Instruction: 4 days a week either in the morning or afternoon
  
- *A/B Weekly Hybrid*
  - Student body divided into two groups: A and B to ensure we maintain social distancing
  - Instruction: Each group alternates one week in-person and one-week distance learning



#### *Considerations:*

- Safety is the top priority (implementing health department guidelines for safely reopening schools)
- Student Learning/ Student Social Emotional well being

#### *Process*

The Grimmway Schools Leadership Team began drafting possible reopening schedules back in April. These were based upon resources coming out at the time regarding how schools might consider reopening.

In May, site leadership engaged various stakeholders on their school site to develop a draft of a school reopening plan.

In June we established two School Reopening task forces, one for Operations, and one for the School Program. Thank you to those who participated. Both task forces have met several times to discuss how to reopen schools safely and in a manner that maintains the high expectations and rigor that we have come to expect of ourselves.

Feedback was solicited from our parents in the form of a survey that went out in late June. Results from the survey were used to inform the development of the general model. Parents preferred the A/B Daily Hybrid Model to the other two models. Reasons given centered around child supervision and transportation to and from school.

### **Grimmway Schools Reopening Plan**

#### *Schedule:*

The A/B Daily Hybrid Model consists of dividing the student body in half: one half attending on the "A" designated days of the week, and the other half attending on the "B" days of the week. Dividing the campus in half is how we are able to meet the CDC guidelines of 6ft of distancing between students and teachers in each classroom.



<b>A/B Hybrid Schedule</b>	
<b>Days</b>	<b>On Site</b>
Monday/Thursday	"A" (DL: Tuesday/Friday)
Wednesday	All Scholars DL
Tuesday/Friday	"B" (DL: Monday/Thursday)
** DL = Distance Learning	

*Safety protocols*

- Mandatory mask wearing for scholars, faculty, and staff
  - Maintaining safe social distancing (6ft.) between students and staff. This will require us to be creative in terms of staggering when students are on campus given our classroom space constraints.
  - Staggered drop off/pick up times to ensure safe distancing
  - Implementation of a screening protocol for allowing students on campus. We already have protocols established for child supervision that we have been using for the past three months. However, we will have to scale up to accommodate more students.
  - Healthy respiratory hygiene protocols for students and staff (similar to those we had in place before our schools shut down)
  - Strict cleaning and disinfecting protocols for classrooms per CDC guidelines
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### **Next Steps**

There are a number of details that still need to be addressed, including:

- Professional Learning for effective instruction in the Hybrid Model
  - Instruction
  - Assessment
  - Curriculum
- Teacher/Staff support needs
- Attendance
- Child Supervision
- Technology needs

### *Survey*

- Your input and feedback on our approach is important. Please take a few minutes to fill out a survey and provide us with input on your needs in the upcoming school year. Click [HERE](#). Thanks in advance for your time.

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### **Principal Search: Shafter**

The search committee has been interviewing candidates for principal for the past week. We are in the final stages of the process, and are engaging in the final vetting of each candidate. Our goal is to have the new principal in place within the next week.

In the interim, Ms. Sabrina Reimert has continued to be the acting administrator in charge at GA Shafter and is ensuring a smooth transition to the next principal.

Thanks for your professionalism and dedication to our scholars, Sabrina.

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### **Flexibility and Patience**

Well, as we look ahead to schools reopening, it is important to note that the guidance provided by the State of California for schools reopening can be superseded by state or county health officials based upon events on the ground relating to COVID cases. As of July 13<sup>th</sup>, Kern County has been taken off the “Monitoring List” (Click [HERE](#)). While this is a positive development – it can only be maintained by each and every one of us following health and safety guidelines, *including wearing masks when coming into close contact with someone outside of your home, maintaining social distancing, and maintaining healthy hygiene by washing our hands frequently*. I encourage you over the next few weeks to make yourself familiar with the guiding documents listed below.

So, as we all look ahead to what promises to be a unique and unpredictable school year, I ask that we all extend each other as much grace and patience as possible.

With gratitude and optimism,

Casey Yeazel  
Executive Director  
Grimmway Schools  
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### *Guiding Documents*

- (a) CDE Guidelines (Click [HERE](#));
- (b) CDPH Guidelines (Click [HERE](#)); and
- (c) Assembly Bill 77 (AB-77) & Senate Bill 98 (SB98) (Click [HERE](#))