



## **Re: First Week of School**

August 1, 2020

Dear Families of Grimmway Academy Shafter,

I hope you and your family have remained safe and healthy throughout these past several weeks. While it is difficult to believe, we are just days away from the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year.

### **Grimmway Schools First Week of School**

**The school year will begin on Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM.** Teachers are eager to begin working with your children – and have been working diligently the past several weeks on crafting engaging and rigorous lesson plans. While we feel strongly that the most effective learning environment for children is in-person, until we can do so safely we will continue to do everything possible to ensure that your child continues to learn at a high level throughout the entire school year – whether it is distance learning or in person.

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### **Leadership Team**

#### *Principal*

Thank you to all who joined us via Zoom last Thursday to welcome our new principal, Ms. Brook Webb. Ms. Webb brings a wealth of leadership experience to the position - including at various school sites in Kern County as assistant principal and principal. Most recently, Ms. Webb worked for the Bakersfield City School District as a District Academy Program Specialist where she spent time managing the BCSD ESY Garden Program. Ms. Webb was selected after a thorough interview process that included parents, students, teachers, and staff. Thank you to all who assisted throughout the process. Please feel free to reach out to Ms. Webb through her email:

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[bwebb@grimmwayschools.org](mailto:bwebb@grimmwayschools.org). She is excited to work with you and your children.

#### *Assistant Principal Academics*

We are also very excited to announce Ms. Sarah Davis as the new Assistant Principal of Academics. Ms. Davis has been with Grimmway Schools since 2015, starting off as a teacher at Grimmway Academy in Arvin, and most recently was the STEM Instructional Coach. Ms. Davis has been a part of several professional growth programs over the past few years, through the LMU CMAST Teacher Leader Program as well as the NTC Instructional Coach Development program. Ms. Davis is a talented educator who is uniquely suited to continue the instructional momentum we have generated at GA Shafter these past few years.

#### *Assistant Principal Student Affairs*

Returning to her position as AP of Student Affairs is Ms. Sabrina Reimert. Our gratitude goes out to Ms. Reimert, who handled all administrative duties over the summer while we identify our next principal.

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### **Child Supervision**

After gaining guidance from the Kern County Department of Public Health Services (KCDPHS) late this week, the most recent directives from CDPH restricting schools reopening to in-person learning while the County in which they are located is on the State COVID-19 monitoring list, also **unfortunately prohibits us from offering any form of child supervision on campus – even for those children of essential workers.** For those of you who are in need of child supervision throughout the day, we apologize and share your frustration. We are going to be working with the City of Shafter on identifying options for all parents in need of supervision during the day. As soon as we have more details, we will share those with you.

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## **Meals**

“Grab and Go” meals service is available to all Grimmway Academy Scholars beginning on Monday, August 3rd. The hours of distribution are from 10 AM – 12 PM. Service Line options will include a drive through (in front of the main office) and a pickup table for those who are walking to campus. Please wear a mask when on campus when others are present and maintain a safe distance of at least 6 ft. when picking up meals.

There will be no meals distributed from the remote site at S&A Market until further notice.

## **Chromebook Distribution**

If your child needs to borrow a Chromebook, we will be distributing on Monday from 10 AM until 12 PM. While we have ordered enough for every scholar – as you can imagine, there is an extremely high demand nationwide, and we are still awaiting the final shipment of our order which should arrive by early next week. We ask that if you have a device at home that can be used beginning Tuesday, to please hold off on borrowing a Chromebook on Monday. By mid-week we anticipate having a full complement.

## **ParentSquare**

We have a new communications platform this upcoming year called ParentSquare. You can visit the ParentSquare website by clicking [HERE](#).

If you have not yet downloaded the app, click on the following links:

- For Android Phones: Click [HERE](#)
- For iPhones, Click [HERE](#)

The team at GA Shafter will be using ParentSquare as the primary means of communication this year. It is important that you download and have access so that you do not miss important messages.



## **Keeping Safe from COVID-19**

As we continue to see a recent spike in positive COVID-19 cases in Kern County, we ask all of you to help us get our kids back to school by being careful to wear a mask when going out in public around others and maintain safe social distancing of 6 ft or more. The sooner we can bring these rates down in the County, the sooner we can get your children back on campus learning in person.

HERE is a link to the CDC guidelines on safety protocols.

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With excitement for new beginnings,

Casey Yeazel

Executive Director  
Grimmway Schools  
[cyeazel@grimmwayschools.org](mailto:cyeazel@grimmwayschools.org)

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*Guiding Documents*  
(a) CDE Guidelines (Click [HERE](#));

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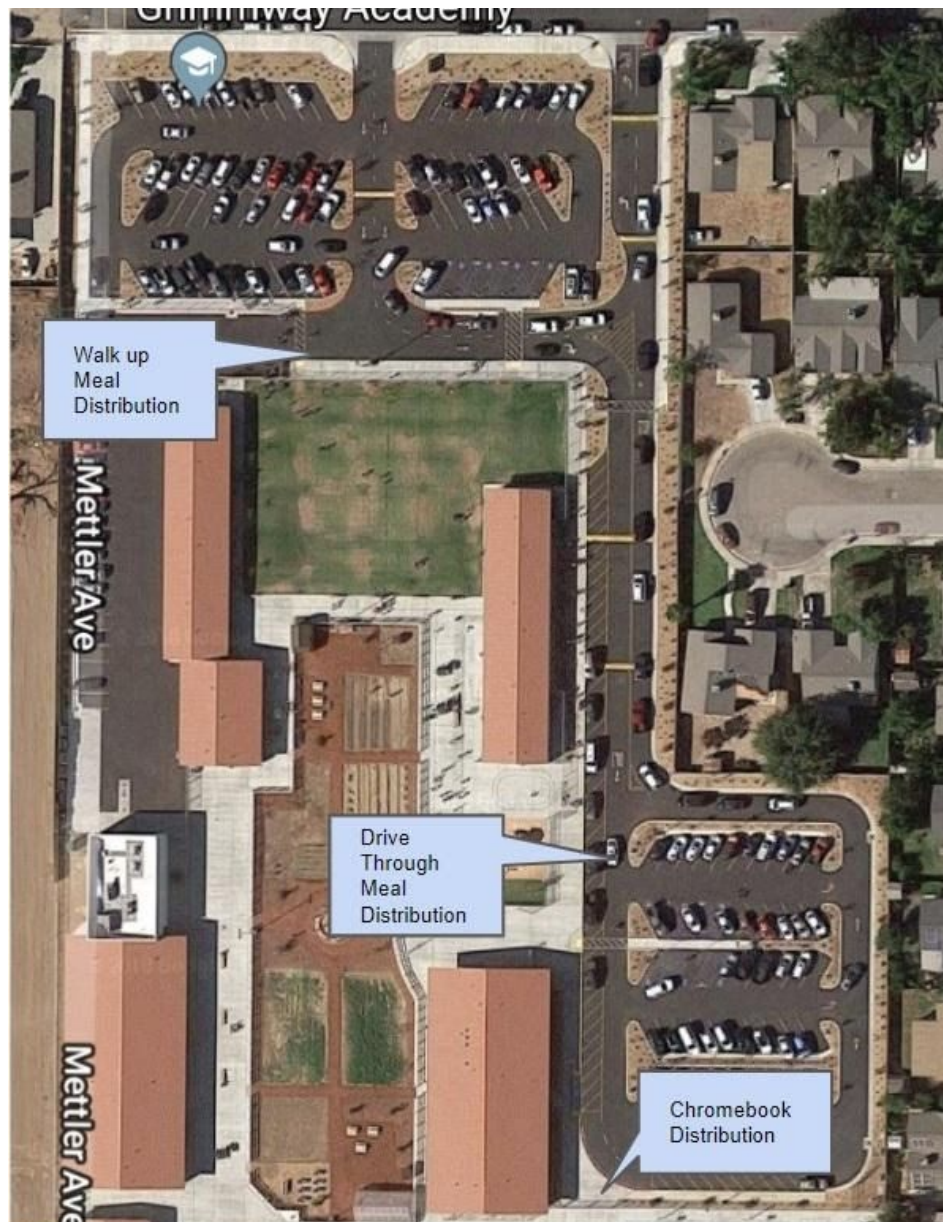
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(b) CDPH Guidelines **REVISED 7/17** (Click [HERE](#)); and  
(c) Assembly Bill 77 (AB-77) & Senate Bill 98 (SB98) (Click [HERE](#))



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