HEMET UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL YEAR PLANNING
2020-2021

A GUIDE TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES OF COVID-19
INCLUDING A SPECIAL SECTION FOR FAMILIES/COMMUNITIES

JUNE 24, 2020

This document is based on information HUSD has been provided from State and Public Health officials as of June 24, 2020. Version 1
The COVID-19 pandemic has created significant complications for our communities by causing health, financial, and/or emotional strains. In a short time period, we had to adapt to a new way of living. As the Superintendent, and a community member, I was once again reminded of the resilience of our community and the way we are always able to work together to support our youth.

These last few months we have been preparing for what the reopening of our schools will look like and how we can create a safe learning environment for students and staff. The intent of this document is to provide our families, students, and staff insight into what the 2020-2021 school year will look like based on the information we have today. The information provided takes into account orders set by the State of California Department of Public Health and Riverside County Public Health that Hemet Unified School District (HUSD) must follow. In addition, our plan includes guidelines set by the California Department of Education (CDE). Please note that this document is subject to change based on current orders set by the State of California and Riverside County Public Health.

We want to thank our families and staff for taking our surveys. Your responses helped guide this work and provided context for us to follow. We understand that each family’s situation is different and providing a learning environment that meets the needs of all echoes our aspiration of embracing, educating, and empowering our stakeholders.

Superintendent Dr. Christi Barrett
HUSD Vision, Values & Guiding Principles

EMBRACE
Respect
We will address the safety and health of all students and staff.

EDUCATE
Collaboration
Communication
We will address the impact of safety guidelines on student learning and well-being.

EMPOWER
Professionalism
Pristine Facilities
We will address and, to the extent possible, minimize impact on families by utilizing guiding documents from federal, state, county, and public health agencies.

Students At The Center Of Our Work

PARENTS/GUARDIANS
TEACHERS/STAFF
TECHNOLOGY
HEALTH PROVIDERS
COMMUNITY

June 24, 2020; Based on State of California and Riverside County Public Health orders
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Parent Survey Results

What type of instruction would you want for your child in the fall?

59% Interested in students coming to school every day for class.

39% Interested in students receiving daily instruction provided by a teacher online.

Top Reasons

- Family Interest: 62%
- Health & Safety Concerns: 53%
- Work Schedule: 22%
- Child Care: 11%

*Results were taken from a June 8, 2020 parent survey that allowed parents to choose more than one option.

June 24, 2020; Based on State of California and Riverside County Public Health orders
What Families Can Expect When School Reopens

The health and safety of our students, staff, and families is of utmost importance. When the 2020-2021 school year begins, on-campus school will look much different than previous years due to new health and safety measures. For families that do not want their student to attend on campus, an online option will be available.

SCREENING AT HOME

- Families/students, adults and staff are recommended to take temperatures daily before going to school. Anyone with a fever of 100.4 or higher should not go to a school site.

- Families/students, adults and staff should also screen themselves for respiratory symptoms such as cough and shortness of breath prior to coming to school each day. Families/students, adults and staff experiencing those symptoms should not attend school.

ARRIVING AT SCHOOL

- Parents and visitors may have limited access to the school campus.

- Bus windows will be open for ventilation when feasible.

- Buses will be sanitized between groups of students.

This health and safety guidance has been recommended by the State of California and Riverside County Public Health for the reopening of schools based on current information and will be updated as the situation changes.

June 24, 2020; Based on State of California and Riverside County Public Health orders
General Safety Precautions Throughout the Day

- Schools will follow disinfection guidelines developed by Centers for Disease Control for school campuses including classrooms, workspaces, outdoor spaces, and playgrounds.
- Physical barriers may be installed where social distancing is not possible.
- All students and staff will be encouraged to wash/clean their hands regularly.
- Sinks with soap and water will be made available on campus.

Face coverings must be worn by staff and students based on a mandate from the State of California on June 18, 2020. For more information and exemptions please visit: California Department of Public Health. https://www.cdph.ca.gov

Social distancing will help limit the spread of the virus. Schools will consider the following strategies to maintain smaller groups of students in shared spaces:

To the extent possible:

- Keep students in a smaller group settings.
- Space desks as far apart as possible within the room.
- Serve individually plated or prepackaged menu items.
- Keep student cohorts from mixing.
- Restrict large gatherings such as assemblies and dances.
- Identify a location for students who are not feeling well to minimize contact with others until they are able to go home.
Access to Technology

Students will have access to technology while at school. If online learning is required, devices will be available for elementary students to use at home.

The district will implement a 1:1 (student to device) initiative for grades 6-12. Students will take the device home each day, if the Parent/Guardian and student agree to the HUSD device agreement and expectations.
Priorities for Returning

Attending to the social emotional wellbeing of our students will be a priority as students return to school.

As schools reopen, students and staff may experience fear and anxiety because of COVID. We are committed to supporting students’ social emotional wellness and offering resources to ensure students transition back to school smoothly. Supports include: social emotional learning, building relationships, community building activities, and increased access to mental health/wellness services, both in person and virtually. Families and schools will need to work together to check how students are feeling and assess their individual needs to provide the support our students need during these challenging times.

Attending to learning will be a priority as students return to school.

District and school site staff are committed to providing a high-quality instructional program through the integration of district adopted curriculum and instructional strategies that align content and course offerings to the California State Standards. All students will have accessibility to curriculum on a daily basis to ensure their academic needs are met. Key curriculum, district benchmark and state assessments are administered to identify student academic levels, address achievement gaps and support differentiated instruction based on student needs. Our instructional models will enable learning through a variety of best teaching strategies and technological opportunities to support and enrich active learning.
Courses, Extracurricular & Childcare

In order to maintain social distancing, activities/courses that require students to congregate may be limited and modified as guidelines change.

**COURSES/CLASSES**
Some courses may need modifications on how the course will be taught if social distancing is not feasible or when there is an increased risk for spreading the virus. Some examples of this include courses like Choir and Band.

**SPORTS**
Athletics will be reviewed and may be offered as outlined in county, state, and CIF guidelines.

**FIELD TRIPS**
Field trips are not currently recommended.

**CHILDCARE NEEDS**
Community partnerships will be explored to offer expanded learning programs to support families. Our afterschool SAFE Program and Think Together Program are working on different models to support the community, families and student needs. These models will follow the health and safety guidance that has been recommended by Riverside County Public Health and support students’ social emotional wellness and academic needs.

June 24, 2020; Based on State of California and Riverside County Public Health orders
Online Learning Option

HUSD will offer an online learning option through its new school The Academy of Innovation. Students will receive instruction 100% online allowing them to engage in quality instruction through the comfort and safety of their own home. Applications to enroll in the The Academy of Innovation will be available in early July.

Students will have access to:

- Quality instruction
- Accredited teachers
- Concurrent college courses
- Counselors

- Online daily schedule
- Learning from home
- Required participation
- Traditional grading
- Personalized daily instruction
- Daily teacher support
- Based on County guidance
  - Access to extra-curricular activities