



*Preparing Career Ready Graduates*

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### **Message from Superintendent Nelson**

**July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020**

Last week, we announced the difficult news that the 2020/2021 school year will begin in a fully online learning model for ALL learners. This 100% online learning model will continue through at least October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020, which signifies the end of the first quarter of learning. As you may have heard from Governor Newsom, counties such as ours who have been on the state monitoring list are not allowed to open in-person schooling at this time, though rigorous learning is non-negotiable. We had very much wanted to offer our parents the choice of on-campus learning or online learning however, the health situation has drastically deteriorated since then and we are now glad to see that we are directly in alignment with the state's directives. The safety of our students, our staff, and their families is of the highest priority for our district.

Thankfully, we have been preparing for online learning now for some time in anticipation that this might be necessary. I can promise you that when our students start online learning in August, it will look vastly different than what our students experienced on March 16th, and will be in line with the [Governor's requirements announced last week](#). Most importantly, each student will receive live online instruction from their teacher every single school day. In addition, every student is eligible to receive a district device to facilitate their online learning. We already have distributed over 60,000 to our students, but if your student has not yet received one and would like one, please contact our Family Technology Support Center at (559) 457-3939.

We are starting what we call, "eLearn at My School", where every student will be learning online every school day while still attached to their home school. For example, if you are a Hoover sophomore you will continue to be a Hoover student and work with your Hoover teachers and staff as you have in the past, the difference being that work will now be done virtually.

As the school year begins next month, eLearn At My School will be in place for ALL of our learners and every student population including early learning, K-12 learning, Alternative Education, and Adult Education. It will include live daily instruction from your student's teachers, and students will be learning from our district adopted curriculum, seeing the same rigor as they would have in the classroom. Our students will have opportunities for student to student virtual collaboration, they will receive individualized student supports, and we plan to have dual immersion, AP classes, Honors courses, electives, and CTE available as usual.

The state has already shared some early information regarding their attendance reporting requirements and instructional minute requirements, so yes, we will be taking daily attendance, and we will be issuing graded assignments per our usual grading policies. Our teams are already working on how our first quarter of learning will help to assess and work through any missed learning from the last quarter due to closures.

The spread of COVID-19 is not just a school district issue, but rather an issue for our community as a whole. We must work together as a community to do our part to control the spread of the virus. We know our opportunities to bring students and staff back to in-person learning is guided by our county's case rates, positivity rates, and hospital capacity. We must be off the state's monitoring list for at least 14 consecutive days to even consider returning to campus.

As a district we are doing everything we can to do our part by keeping students and staff at home, practicing safety measures such as proper mask wearing and physical distancing, and to making sure there is access to medical care and testing. We need the entire community to come alongside us to do your part by staying home, wearing your masks, and staying at least 6 feet away from anyone you do not live with.

There are many details that are still be collaboratively negotiated with our labor partners, and we will be sharing those details as soon as we have them including student schedules, internet supports, and supports for our Special Education learners, English language learners, and our foster and homeless youth. Please keep in contact with us through our website at [www.fresnounified.org](http://www.fresnounified.org) and on our social media channels through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn. Thank you Fresno Unified Family!