



DEER VALLEY
Unified School District

Highland Lakes School
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September 17, 2020

Dear Highland Lakes Families,

We are so excited to welcome our students back to in person learning over the next few weeks! As a reminder, the district Return to Learning Plan is a phased in approach. Our students will return to campus according to the following schedule:

- Kindergarten: September 24
- Grades 1-3: September 29
- Grades 4-6: October 5
- Grades 7-8: October 14

The health and safety of our students and staff is our top priority. We will be following safety protocols that mitigate the spread of the Covid 19 virus which are listed in the district's operational safety plan (<http://www.dvusd.org/returntoschool>). However, we also want to make sure our students return to a warm and inviting learning environment. For instance, facemasks and social distancing will be mandatory, but our students will be able to move about the campus, play on the playground, and interact with one another as safely as possible. Canvas will still be utilized in all grade levels to some extent, but lessons and activities will be provided in person by the teacher. Here are a few additional processes of which we would like you to be aware.

Arrival

- Students may not report to campus before 8:30 a.m. unless they are a part of the before care program (Bears Den).
- When students arrive, they will report directly to their first class.
- In the front parking lot, it will be "drive through drop off" only. Parents may not walk students onto campus.
- School will start at 8:45.

During the Day

- Teachers will sanitize materials and touchpoints throughout the day. The school will be disinfected each night.
- Masks are required for all students and staff. Students are to wear their masks at all times, unless they are eating lunch or engaging in a strenuous activity such as PE or physical play at recess.
- In the classroom, social distancing of 3 feet apart or in "pods" will be enforced whenever possible.
- Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria. They will be sitting with their class and social distancing will be in place. We encourage students who bring their lunch to use disposable lunch bags.

- Students will have recess on the playground. Classrooms will have designated outside areas to play and a schedule will be developed so that classroom and grade level cohorts stay together as much as possible and limit sharing of equipment. It is possible that social distancing will not occur during recess times. Lunch recess times will be limited to 10-15 minutes so as not to encourage close contact.

Dismissal

- We will have a staggered dismissal beginning at 3:20.
 - 3:20 – Bikers, Walkers and Kindergarteners
 - 3:25 – Parking Lot Parent Pick Up
 - 3:30 – Bus Riders

Parents/Guardians – Please review the following campus procedures:

- Screen your child for signs of illness prior to sending them to school. If your child shows signs of illness you are required to keep them home. If your child has a fever do not send them to school until they are fever free for three days.
- Make sure your child brings their own labeled water bottle to school (the use of drinking out of water fountains are highly discouraged) however water fountains may be used to refill your child's water bottle container.
- Face coverings must be worn on campus. It is mandatory that your child wear a face covering at arrival. There will be opportunities for breaks with the mask including at lunch while they eat and at recesses.
- Vented masks, neck Gaiters and/or bandanas are not allowed, as they are less effective. Students will be provided a poly-cotton blend mask to wear.
- Students who forget a mask will be provided with one.
- We are encouraging every parent to have their child bring hand sanitizer and to have a discussion with their child about the importance of personal hygiene. This includes using their elbow to sneeze or cough into, washing hands prior to eating, washing hands after using the restroom, etc.
- Transportation requires a maximum of two students per seat with siblings required to be seated together. All students, bus drivers and monitors will be required to wear a face covering. Increased disinfection procedures will occur on a daily basis. Drivers will call school in advance if transporting a student with symptoms.
- Throughout the day your child will be visually screened by a staff member to ensure they are not exhibiting signs of illness.
- Please do not drop your child off until the designated arrival time. Students should not be dropped off early and will not be allowed to wait for the gate to open.
- Students will be required to go straight to class and will not be allowed to congregate in common areas prior to this time. Gates will NOT be opened until 15 minutes prior to the start of the school day. For your student's safety and the safety of the staff please make sure that this procedure is followed.
- There will be no visitors or volunteers allowed on campus until further notice.
- The front office will be limiting the amount of people allowed to enter the building. You may enter the front office for emergencies, to sign in tardies or for early student pick-up.
- All students will continue to receive meals through Nutrition Services for free through December 31st, or they may bring meals from home. Students will eat in the cafeteria, physically distanced and facing one way. We will follow the CDC's "No Sharing" guidelines with all food and drinks.
- Students who bring lunch are highly encouraged to bring a sack lunch that can be thrown away at the end of lunch.
- Dismissal will be staggered to allow for social distancing. We will dismiss students who are walking, riding a bike and Kindergarten students at 3:20. Our parent pick up students will be released at 3:25 and our students that ride a bus will be released at 3:30.

Keeping our Highland Lakes students safe is a community effort. It is imperative that you monitor your child's health and that you do not send your child to school if he/she has a fever, cough, sore throat, or other symptoms of illness. We are fortunate to have a full time nurse on staff at Highland Lakes. She will be monitoring our students and will send your child home if he/she presents with any COVID-19 symptoms.

Please complete the attached Covid Acknowledgement and Disclosure Form. You may sign, scan and return the form to Jessica.Koenig@dvusd.org. If you are unable to scan and email the form, you may have your child return the paper form to their teacher on their first day of school.

Although this is a challenging time, I am confident that our Highland Lakes community will get through this together. Our staff is eager to begin in person teaching. Please be patient as we establish some new and different processes to keep everyone healthy, safe, and ready to learn. We are extremely appreciative of your support and grace during this challenging time. We strive to keep lines of communication open and are here for all of you! Please don't hesitate to email or call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mark Anderson

Mark Anderson
Principal

Danielle Ware

Danielle Ware
Assistant Principal