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*Please read this important message from Gilbert Community Schools*

July 17, 2020

Dear Gilbert Families,

We know there is a lot of excitement and some anxiety around returning to school in August. Circumstances seem to change daily and we all continue to adjust and adapt. Despite this, there is one thing we know for sure; the health and safety of our staff and students is our highest priority.

Although we don't have all the details worked out, we want to share what we do know in hopes of alleviating some concerns. It's possible, and indeed likely, that we will experience a variety of situations in the upcoming year and need to be prepared for whatever may come our way.

### **PARENT CHOICE MODEL**

We have selected two primary models for the 2020-21 school year; Parent Choice and Remote Learning. Remote Learning will be reserved for when conditions are such that we cannot safely educate students in person. The Parent Choice model will provide parents the following options:

- Students attending school on-site
- Students attending school remotely
- Students following a traditional homeschool option

### **HEALTH & SAFETY**

All staff and students will be asked to wear face coverings, to the maximum extent possible, when other mitigation measures are not available, i.e. In the hallways, on buses, etc.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has been added to our list of sources that we will rely on for guidance. Their recommendations include among others:

- 3 feet for social distancing.
- All employees and students will be asked to take temperatures before coming to work/school.

- if you are feeling sick or running a fever, you must stay home.

We can't thank you enough for your patience as we work through these details.

Monday night the Gilbert Board of Directors will be meeting to consider/approve this Gilbert CSD Reopening Plan. We will send a survey out to parents Tuesday, July 21st, asking them to share their thoughts on what option they intend to choose. The information families provide will give us the critical information we need to continue working through the remaining details.

Please know that we will share those details as they are known.

There have been questions centered around registration. Registration needs to be completed regardless of parent choice. An email was sent out on Friday, June 26th, please email Cassie Wendt if you are having trouble locating that email. Registration is also going to ensure that you receive all upcoming messages from the school district regarding Return to Learn. Any questions or if your student is not returning to Gilbert next year please contact Cassie Wendt, [wendtc@gilbertcsd.org](mailto:wendtc@gilbertcsd.org).

If you have any questions, comments, or thoughts please let us know.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Beecher, Superintendent GCSD

Deb Ordal, GCSD School Board President