

March 8, 2021

Dear Esperero Families:

The efforts of our teachers, staff, and families during the 2020-2021 COVID-19 Pandemic have been exemplary. As a result, CFSD is the only district that has been open for on-campus learning since October. We have forged a strong home/school partnership that has empowered us to navigate the past year with grace, flexibility, and professionalism. Our caring and compassionate learning community's focus on students is a key reason that CFSD stands as a shining example among its peers.

On that note, it makes us acutely aware of the implications that [The State of Arizona Executive Order 2021-04](#) brings at this point in the school year. Our goal in this letter is to explain the Executive Order and to let you know how it will affect your student.

**What is Executive Order 2021-04: Open for In-Person Learning?**

Governor Ducey's order of March 3, 2021, states that district and charter schools shall return to in-person, teacher-led instruction no later than the Monday following a scheduled spring break, or by March 15 if there is not a scheduled spring break. This order also requires that we notify you within a reasonable time period that in-person learning will resume full-time at your student's school.

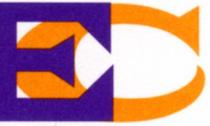
**All in-person students will attend 5 days per week, beginning the week of March 15.**

In CFSD, we had previously announced the plan to combine our two cohorts into a 4-days-a-week schedule in grades 6-12. With the Governor's directive, we now need to offer in-person learning on each school day. Therefore, we will no longer have an asynchronous day on Wednesday (at the middle schools) or on Friday (at the high school). Wednesdays are usually late start days, and run from 9:30am - 2:30pm. The current bell schedule will remain in effect.

**Fully remote learning will continue as an option for students.**

**If and when transmission in Pima County decreases to the "moderate" or "low" categories, any student who wants to return to in-person learning will be able to do so.** The order defines four categories of community transmission: low, moderate, substantial, and high. At the present time, the level of community transmission in Pima County is in the substantial category. The order notes that schools in counties with substantial transmission may continue to employ strategies to reduce attendance. Esperero currently has a wait list for in-person learning. We will inform you when the transmission level decreases and we are able to accommodate more students. **If you wish your student to be placed on the waiting list for in-person learning or switch to fully remote learning, email [nsantin@cfsd16.org](mailto:nsantin@cfsd16.org).**

**We are committed to keeping our schools safe.** It's important to know that the positive COVID rate in our schools remains very low. With bringing more students back to campus, CFSD's mitigation strategies will still be in place, and we will keep students physically-distanced to the greatest extent possible. All other mitigation strategies will continue to be maintained. You can review our Mitigation Plan [here](#) on our website, under Reopening Plan > Health & Safety Guidelines.



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**On Late Start Wednesdays at ECMS, students will attend school from 9:30am - 2:30pm**

Students attending school remotely will attend live lessons all day Wednesday, from 9:30 - 2:30 (with office hours from 9:00 am - 9:25am on Wednesdays). Remote learners may schedule an appointment with any teacher to meet online during this time.

Thank you for your cooperation and support as we comply with the requirements of this Executive Order. We are grateful that you have chosen CFSD for your child's education. Together, we will finish the school year strong.

Sincerely,

Principal Mary

Mary Setliff, Principal  
Esperero Canyon Middle School